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illio^{University of Illinois}
2008

vol 115

ge

illini media company 512 e. green street champaign, il 61820

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Illo
LD2397
.J4
2008
v.115
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Undergrad

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universal {image}

This is it. Four, maybe five years of college is all you've got left. It may be less, for those of us sliding down the slippery slope of junior or senior year toward the real world. That's really all the time you have to figure out where you are headed.

The University of Illinois is definitely headed in a new direction, though the end of its path is still shrouded in darkness. The conclusion of the debate over Chief Illiniwek has come, leaving pro-chief and anti-chief students in the same, empty boat. Who/what are we now? A block 'I' looks classy and respectful on a T-shirt or track jacket, but some may say it looks a little awkward when a student dons it as a mascot and attempts to taunt Sparty the Spartan on the football field. Many students have made their desires for an image clear (the forums of facebook and myspace are, of course, very enlightening on the topic), suggesting new mascot ideas such as the Fighting Illini Dinosaurs, the Illini Prairie Dogs, and the Bohcats. And we cannot dismiss the popular choice for the fighting hald Britney Spears.



photo by roseanne overton

Our current image is a blur of black and white, waiting to be colored in. However, many will argue that the chief was not the only reason the students had enough loyalty to "paint the stadium orange." It is also doubtful that he was the sole reason for problems with diversity on campus. The students of the time determine what "Illinois" is, and what image we show to the world. Given this unique opportunity to start from scratch with that image (whether you come voluntarily or kicking and screaming, you are still left with a blank page that must be filled in), we must now build something new. The image of 40,000 students is powerful, the only question that remains is how we will shape it.



photo by dennis sudirdjo

As you work toward building that new image of the University, you still must make time to become a person all your own as well. So, who are you? When asked such a basic life question, how do you respond? Many will use a standard answer, generally associated with what you do. "I'm an engineering major," "I'm pre-med," or "I'm a journalist." Some focus on other areas of life in which they excel. "I'm a basketball player," or "I'm on the dance team." There is really nothing wrong with these answers, although 20, maybe 40 years from now, you will not respond the same.

It is very doubtful you will still be "pre-med" at 60 years old, or dazzling a crowd in jazz shoes at 45. Chances are you will be different. Your peers will now see you as the world's greatest dad, or a fortune-500 executive, or even (after graduating from one of the best engineering schools in the nation) a Nobel prize winner. Your image will have changed.



photo by blake miller

Who will you be?

Your education here will give you an occupation, not a life.

We are, essentially, black and white. The choices you make as an intricate part of our 40,000-member community give you a hue – vibrant, thriving, successful. Let people see who you are, not what you do. This is it. Create your IMAGE.



photo by — blake miller



student life

We begin our lives at the University as a black and white image of our future selves. In a few short years, we will walk away in full color, having become who we are truly meant to be.

photo'by kristin o'brien

dork or drama queen?

residents fight the image of their dorm

As students at the University of Illinois go through their freshman year, they face the transition that college is now their home and where they live is more than just a dorm room. There are many different options; University Residence Halls and Private Certified Housing, the six-pack or Illini Tower, Allen Hall or Bromley, Newman Hall or Europa House, LAR, FAR, PAR, ISR. Each of these dorms has an image, meaning, and stereotype to handle.

Illini Tower (IT) is considered the luxury of freshmen living by many, with a kitchen and a living room in each living quarter. Undecided freshman Whitney Perkowitz knew she loved IT as soon as she saw it. Perkowitz said she loved making her own food and being able to go watch TV or study in the living room if her roommate wanted to go to sleep.

"People think that the students who live here are all stuck up. But it's not a big deal here," Perkowitz said.

Many of the stereotypes that are associated with Illini Tower also apply to Bromley, another private hall. "People think we are rich and snobby, but that's not necessarily true. You will have that type of people anywhere, but you can't generalize 700 people to one stereotype," said Mary Schmit, freshman in LAS and Bromley Hall resident.

The six-pack includes six residence halls which are not air conditioned. Students hear of the six-pack as the party dorms. However, with such a large incoming freshmen class, some students do not get their first choice of housing. Johanna Siri, a freshman still undecided on her major, ranked the six-pack as her first choice but was placed in the Lincoln Avenue Residence Hall (LAR). LAR is an all-female residence hall. It wasn't for Siri, who felt like she didn't fit in.

"Honestly, the stereotypes are sometimes true. I don't characterize myself by where I live, but some people do," said Siri. What a dorm says about a student may be true, as some stereotypes are, but University students have found ways to break through those images and show themselves as they really are.

story by melissa silverberg

photos by blake miller



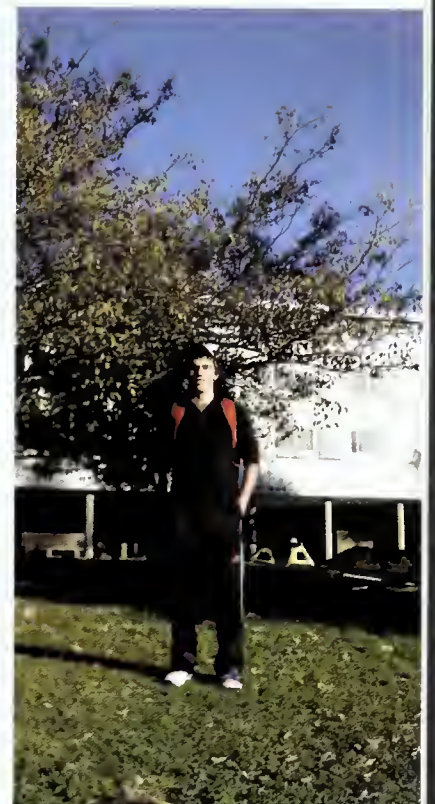
Anita Xue, senior in English, is dressed for the stereotypical AZN at ISR. While stereotypes between dorms seem to be common knowledge, not all students fit the profile.



Brian Liss, a Freshman in natural resources and environmental sciences, fits the stereotype of "the Allen Hall hippie." Group events such as the zombie walks on Halloween have given the Allen Hall residents a reputation for always having fun.



Katie Sikma, Freshman in LAS, thinks she fits the stereotypical Bromley girl. Many see these private-housing residents as the sorority girl/trixie with a laid-back sense of style.



Freshman in chemical engineering Patrick Vaughn fits the profile of the stereotypical 'BRO'. Vaughn has been told he 'looks like a guy from the six-pack' by many classmates.

“ YOU **CAN'T** generalize
700 people to one
 stereotype. ” }

» mary claire schmit, freshman in LAS



Kyle O'Konis, junior in the college of agriculture, studies in a quiet corner for a midterm exam. Those with a lot going on often find regular places in which to study, a good break from the monotony of their apartment or the library.

Sophomore in business Michelle Wesley organizes her schedule, working to manipulate her time commitments to accommodate all her upcoming activities. Wesley, like other students on campus, worked to balance her school-work requirements with extracurricular activities such as participation in a sorority or fraternity, professional organizations, RSOs, and relaxation



“I like to THINK of myself as a ‘mover and shaker’

{ and I **know** that I am a better person for all that I have done. ”

» beth rahn, junior in the college of business

Many students (over the age of 21) enjoy drinking a fine glass of wine when they are in dire need of a break.



keeping busy

busy students try to do it all

Students at the University of Illinois have tremendous appetites for a variety of interests beyond their main courses. With so many opportunities at their disposal, it is easy to see how a student's plate can fill up.

Many busy students seem to have a similar, insatiable desire to accomplish their goals. Many people admire their strong work ethic. Beth Rahn, junior in the college of business said, "I have found that my motivation comes naturally and internally."

Rahn is the vice president of public relations for the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and participates in the business honors program as extracurricular additions to her courses. "There is rarely a time when I need to force myself to do something, because usually I know that it's in my best interest," Rahn said.

Junior in LAS Miles Kaschalk shared this inner drive to excel stating, "If I didn't have such a full plate, I'd feel as though I weren't maximizing my potential." As a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, Greek intervarsity, the Actuarial Sciences Club, and a State Farm intern, Kaschalk is extremely busy. When it comes to choosing between a night at the bars or a night at the Undergraduate Library, these students have acquired a greater taste for coffee than beer. At the end of the day, that last 'check' off the list is just one step closer to their goals.

"I feel like I'm preparing myself to handle the real world," Kaschalk stated. "Every sacrifice I make today will produce a far greater reward tomorrow." Some do feel like the short-term consequences are disproportionate to the long-term benefits, however. "It is a constant effort to continue attempting to reach your potential," Rahn said.

Sophomore Fawn Hendershott, a student in LAS and a member of the Kinesiology Students Association, Illini Club softball, Illini Pride, Block 'I', and a Campus Recreation employee said that "the biggest challenge is not only getting everything done on time, but also making sure it was done to the best of my ability." Having mastered the art of moderation, many of these students hope to eventually indulge in what life has to offer.

story by katie homer
photo by kristin o'brien

chief-less

pro-chief and anti-chief students alike move forward without the chief

Another October Saturday on campus brings another home-football game to Memorial Stadium. A game-day crowd passes orange signs in windows reading "paint the stadium chief." Tailgate parties have students decked out in Indian headdresses, and an orange swarm of people sport an array of shirts, hats and blankets displaying Chief Illiniwek. After a rowdy first half, the lively Marching Illini spill onto the field to the known-by-heart tunes of the famous "Three in One" song medley. The crowd roars a low request for "Chiiiiieeef" and all eyes turn expectantly to the northeast corner of the stadium. But no Illini mascot enters the field.

The average bystander might not be able to tell that the renowned University of Illinois icon of 80 years had been banned. Labeled as "hostile or abusive" by the NCAA, the Chief danced his last dance at the final home basketball game Feb. 21, 2007.

John Bitzer, a 1974 University graduate and an ex-Chief, is among the many resisters to the Chief's removal. "He was the spirit and symbol of U of I athletics," Bitzer said. "It was such a wonderful tradition."

Dan Maloney, graduate student in recreation, sport and tourism, was the final chief who performed the last halftime performance. "Here we are in 2007; this tradition is 80 years old," Maloney said. "That's pretty amazing." He also said that the biggest thing that people of both sides leave out of the discussion is that the Chief created a very strong sense of community. "It was a way that total strangers of opposite ends of Illinois could be the best of friends for three and a half minutes."

The loss didn't keep fans away but some feel that the halftime atmosphere is not the same. Others sympathized with the disrespect and minority stereotypes that some felt the Chief reinforced.

"If it upset people that much, then it shouldn't be represented," said Alicia Aguirre, senior in LAS. "Eliminating the Chief shows our respect for different cultures." After complying with the NCAA's mandate, the University is not seeking a new mascot. The terms "Illini" and "Fighting Illini" are being retained because they originate from the word "Illinois," but there will be no face or figure to accompany the name.

The University retired Chief Illiniwek to preserve its image as a respectful and racially-sensitive institution that promotes diversity and dignity, but an image of the University without its Chief is still seen as contradictory by many.

by amanda brei ner

photography by blake miller

illustration by dan lesueur

The Illini color guard stands at attention, wearing their new uniforms that no longer sport Chief Illiniwek. The University has integrated the block 'I' into the uniforms of most sports teams on campus.



As clothing sporting Chief Illiniwek dwindles, retailers advertise the remaining sales with a vigor.



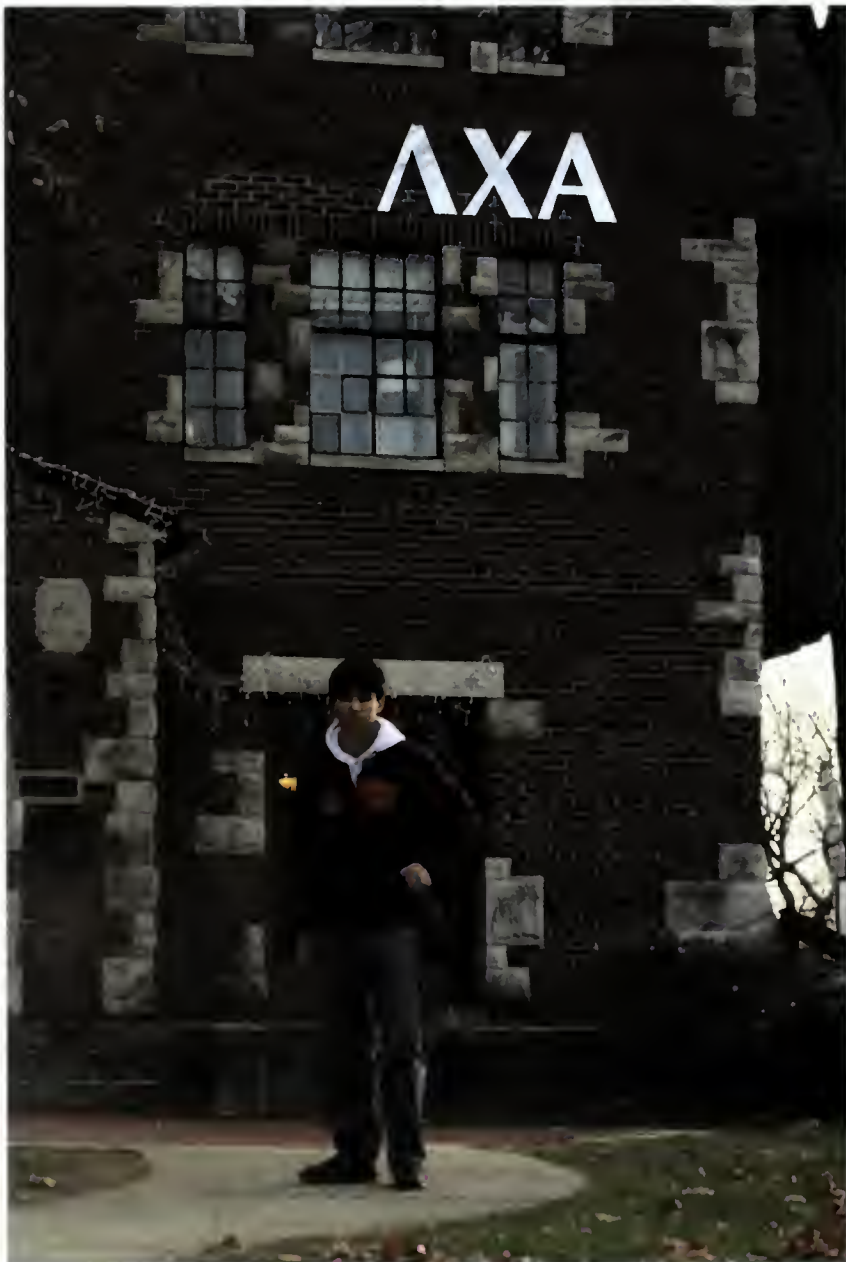
“even at the football games,
everyone still does the **chief** thing because
that’s **what** we EXPECT, and that’s **what we know.** ” }

» laura varland, senior in communications

"It helps *break* down
the stereotypes
brought up against us

and shows that *we are giving back* to a **community**
that *gives so much to* **US.**"

» nick whitcomb, junior in chi psi



Scott Kardas, freshman
in history, stands
proudly in front of
Lambda Chi Alpha
Greek Week featured
events for all greek
members



Fraternities and sororities spent Greek Week on numerous philanthropic events.

greeks band together

greek students spend a week working together in seminars and activities

Members of the greek system received relationship advice, ate free food and participated in a variety show during September's Greek Week, all to raise money for Habitat for Humanity. Elise Moore, sophomore in fine and applied arts, helped organize activities for the event, like the variety show.

"We had a list of potential acts by summer and we used the greek council budget to reserve Foellinger," Moore said. Acts included the dance group Vitality, bands from various fraternities and singers from all chapters.

All four greek councils volunteered to raise money throughout the week. Nick Whitcomb is a junior in chi psi, who said he was glad to volunteer for the event. "It helps break down the stereotypes brought up against us and shows that we are giving back to a community that gives so much to us," Whitcomb said.

Most activities were aimed towards students in the Greek community. Whitney Slovic, sophomore in liberal arts and sciences and member of Alpha Delta Pi, attended the Picnic in the Park at Frat Park that Sunday afternoon. "There was a good amount of people," Slovic said. "A lot guys in fraternities stopped by on their way to class and we all got brats."

Students not involved in the Greek system got a chance to help support Habitat for Humanity as well, by donating change on the quad. Michael Murphy, senior in applied health sciences, noticed the students raising money when they were canning on the quad. "Even though I am not in the Greek system, I think it is great that they have everyone working together for a good cause," Murphy said.

Other events included an appearance by David Coleman, the real life dating doctor, or America's "real-life Hitch." Many Greeks attended the event to hear the ten-time award winning speaker discuss relationships among college students.

The grand total raised for Habitat for Humanity was \$8,000. All of the money raised throughout the week went to the University of Illinois Habitat for Humanity Student Chapter. "It went through the campus to show our support, so the Greek system could have better representation," Moore said.

Slovic added, "We should keep doing Greek Week and get more people involved."

by annie koval
photo by dennis sudirdjo



Jesse Lee and Tim Marco hang out in Allerton Park between classes on the south quad. Students often relax outside as long as possible before the winter arrives, forcing students indoors.

corners, couches, and coffee houses



Shannon O'Laughlin, senior in ACES, dishes up a plateful of tahini pasta at Krishna dinner every Monday night at the Red Herring. Campus restaurants and diners are frequented by students looking to escape from the norm of dorm food.

students find hangouts on campus to make their own

Like many other institutions, there are few places offered for students to hang out outside the perimeters of the University's campus. Many have adjusted, claiming various areas on the campus grounds as their own 'spot.'

Coffee shops can be found on almost every corner of the campus. Espresso Royale is one coffee chain and can be found in the union, undergraduate library, the corner of 6th Sixth and Daniel, and the corner of Goodwin and Oregon. While each may differ in appearance, they all retain a mellow atmosphere allowing students to work and relax. "We come here for our student organization officer's meeting," said Monika Piwowarska, graduate student in architecture. "It's a very convenient location."

Entertainment is abundant on campus, especially at the Illini Union. While different performances can be seen at the stage in the courtyard café, the basement has more to offer. With a pool hall, Dance, Dance Revolution machines, TV lounges, a bowling alley, and a refreshment counter, it is common to see numerous students lounging about and enjoying themselves. "I'm here probably twice a week, just to bowl or hang out," said Jason Tongate, junior in education.

However, it's not always necessary to go outside the dorms to find places to hang out. "Late Night" offers a chance for students from different resident halls to relax into the early hours of the morning while enjoying a snack. "I come to do homework and study. We sit and talk about life and we eat," said Jennifer Ludwig, sophomore in the college of liberal arts and sciences. "There's a lot of open space and you don't have to be quiet or anything." Other areas of interest that students have considered are the front of Allen Hall, where students display their musical talents with drums, guitar and more. Legends, and Firehaus are also populated by students and sports fans who meet to watch games.

by Lauren Laws
photo by Kristin O'Brien

A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

justin randall exudes courage and control as student body president

Setting two new precedents in the University's 140-year history, Justin Randall became the first unanimously-elected and openly-gay president of the Illinois Student Senate. Randall, senior in liberal arts and sciences, is also a Republican and said that his sexual orientation can be a controversial topic for politics.

"You often get the Christian right which comes in. There's that moral fusion of Christianity with political beliefs," Randall said. "The Christian right believes that, based on the Christian beliefs, that's wrong, so politically it's wrong. If you actually look at the ideals of the Republican party, that's just not the case."

Mike Perkins, senior in LAS, said that some members of the Republican party take a stance against homosexuality for reasons that have nothing to do with politics.

"A lot seem to take it very personally. You know, homophobia or what not kind of [stereotype] homosexuals," Perkins said. "It's got to be a tough position to be in for him."

Katherine Hamilton, senior in the college of communications, said that because the party is less accepting of homosexuality, there are very few openly-gay Republicans, but Randall's stance may help change that.

"It's great because it adds to the diversity of the Senate and of the school," said Hamilton. "I think that it just shows that times are changing and you can do it and it's acceptable. It will help others that come after us."

Not all responses to Randall's sexuality and senate position have been positive. During his junior year, several members of College Republicans opposed Randall's presidency of the club because of his sexual orientation.

"There were people who were not happy about it and a few of them just dropped out of the organization," Randall said.

Randall also said there are stereotypes attached to both the Democratic and Republican parties that may prevent some members from accepting others who do not fit those specific guidelines.

"There's a code around both parties – and this is something that I hate – that if you are 'this' you should be 'this,'" Randall said. "I think that has almost gotten to the point and is so ingrained in some people's mentality that they can't see past it."

Lhea Randle, junior in LAS, said Randall's open-ness about his sexuality could have a great impact on the Republican party because he challenges what people expect from a typical Republican.

"What I like to see the party doing is expanding. And I think that's a good thing, that he does bring that to the party," said Randle. "It's going to be an uphill battle because, you know, you face that with either party. Members of that party have to break out from that in order to do different things and I think that's where they are right now."

Despite some stances against homosexuality, Randall said he is hopeful the party will be more open to gay rights in the future. "I think it would be just as difficult to be, you know, any kind of other minority within a party, but it definitely is changing, in my opinion. So, I think in the future it won't be quite as difficult," said Randall.

by Courtney Coppernoll

photo by Dennis Sudirdjo

Justin Randall, the student body president, gazes upon the main quad in the afternoon. As the first president to be elected by unanimous vote, Randall set the stage for a new era in Illinois student government.



*"Members
of that party have to*

**break
out."**

» Ihea randle, junior in las

Justin Randall, does formal paperwork in his office, located on the second floor of the Illini Union. Tradition covered the wall's of the office, but Randall treated the office and his position as his own.

virginia tech inspires more than mourning

the university considers new programs in light of the 2007 massacre



Students walk around at night, often taking their safety at the University for granted. The Virginia Tech instance proved to many that this safety can be taken away when you least suspect it.

Last April, students glued their eyes to television sets and watched in disbelief as coverage of the Virginia Tech shooting unfolded. Not only did this tragedy open up questions of the safety responsibilities of University administrators, but it led students on all campuses to question their own safety.

Erika Lans, a sophomore in communications, is a native of Virginia. "I feel like because Virginia is so far away from Illinois, people thought of it as a tragedy really far away and it would never affect our school," Lans said.

The University is establishing a new text messaging system to ensure that all students are contacted in a state of emergency. "The University is looking to alert broad numbers of people," said Thomas Bruno, a member of the Champaign City Council. "We can interrupt television on cable and use a reverse 9-11, where the police unit can call phone numbers to warn people."

Julie Weber, sophomore in chemistry, was encouraged that they have the emergency text messaging program, but was unsure how helpful it would be. "It is encouraging that they have the emergency text messaging out," Weber said. "In the moment there is not a whole lot that you can do," she said.

Even with updated technology, Bruno said that administrators, police, professors and students should still be prepared in case of an emergency. "But police are always training and getting expertise in techniques that deal with acts of violence, specifically with gunman," he said.

Some students believe that media and video games play a part in the violence experienced on campuses and in schools. "I think more people need to be aware of what their fellow students are doing and even if you do go out of your way to make sure someone is stable, you can save lives," Lans said.

Virginia Tech awoke universities nation-wide to create policies that ensure the safety of students and professors alike. "Even with the best security, it is impossible to prevent something like that," Weber said. "I think the University is doing everything they can, but there is only so much you can do."

story by : annie koval
photos by : kristin o'brien



A single candle is lit in front of Foellinger in remembrance of the students who lost their lives last spring. Universities all over the country have re-examined their safety protocols following the Virginia Tech incident.



Foellinger auditorium
built 100 years ago is
located on the south
end of the main quad

centennial celebrations

the university commemorates foellinger's one-hundreth year

The Foellinger Auditorium's anniversary celebration, held on the evening of Sept. 29, 2007, commemorated its 100th year. The Symphony Orchestra serenaded the audience with selections from Prokofiev's 'Romeo and Juliet Suites.' Former dean of the University Willard Broom was one of three guest speakers at the event.

The Other Guys, a male a capella group from the Varsity Men's Glee Club, sang a few numbers including a song called "Morrow Plots," dedicated to the University's experimental corn fields. "We just wanted a nice, classy event that would show off the highlights of Foellinger," said Phil Strang, Foellinger auditorium's facility manager. He spent six months planning for the anniversary, setting a date that would allow both alumni and performance ensembles to participate.

Some students know Foellinger simply as a lecture hall; others have attended concerts and cultural performances on Foellinger's stage. Strang supplies every event with a student crew that takes care of everything from stage lighting to ushering.

Architect Walker Johnson spoke about the history of Foellinger and his part in the 1985 renovation. Foellinger Auditorium was completed in 1907 on a grant of \$100,000 from the government. For many, Foellinger represents cultural identity at the University of Illinois. It was the original home of the University's Symphony Orchestra, hosting revered guest conductors such as Igor Stravinsky and Leopold Stokowski.

Alumna Jan Rader said, "I remember a group of us took Leopold Stokowski to lunch in downtown Champaign the day he was conducting. But I was much more impressed that he was married to Gloria Vanderbilt than that he was a conductor!"

Today, the auditorium hosts events like the Homecoming Fashion Show, the Asian cultural dance shows and a recent Ryan Adams concert. Strang said the centennial event was a nice way to celebrate the building's birthday.

story by | melissa chua

photo by | blake miller

all in the family

illini siblings find a home away from home



Ben Campbell loves to hang out with his brother Dan and talk about baseball when things get stressful at school. Siblings often got together to discuss the struggles of college.

Every August, college students leave their homes to come to the University. As these students leave one family behind, they become a part of another family in Champaign-Urbana. Some students are lucky enough, however, to combine these two families into one and have a sibling or two at the same college.

For many families, the University is not just a great learning institution, but a family tradition as well. Parents, grandparents, siblings and even those pets left at home have Illini spirit. When freshmen come into this intense and brand new world, some have a brother or sister already here to help them along.

For example, Kylie Hudgens, a freshman in LAS, said that, "coming up here to visit the past few years, I saw how fun it is and what a great school Illinois is." Big sister Emily Hudgens, senior in speech communications, is very glad Kylie chose to come to the university. Emily said, "It's nice to see her a few times a week." Now that the two are at the same school, they have a chance to get to know each other as friends, as well as sisters. Other siblings closer in age also love having their family as company while at college.

Neda Bahrani, a student in the college of LAS, loves having her sister here as a comfort. "If I'm homesick or want to talk about anything, she's right there," Neda said. Neda's sister, Nour Bahrani, is a sophomore and also in the college of LAS. Neda's dorm and Nour's apartment complex are on the same street, bringing them even closer together.

Having someone at college that is family can help new students learn about campus and all the different aspects that go into the life of an Illini. "I love how Illinois is so balanced between school and social life," Nour said. By having her older sister here, already understanding the ways of college, Neda has been able to better adapt to her new life. When orange and blue lives in family member's veins, it often will infect other members along the way. Homecoming weekend, football games, dad's weekend and other Illini events are perfect examples of whole families enjoying and reminiscing about college and the Champaign family they will always be a part of.

PHOTOGRAPH BY melissa silverberg

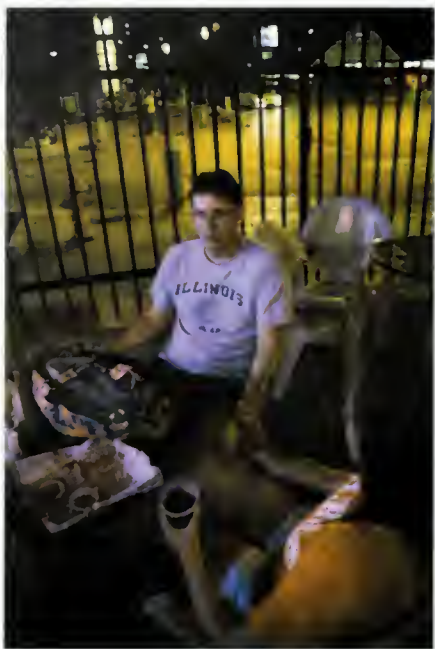
STYLING BY zak maybaum

“If I’m *homesick*
or want to talk about
ANYTHING,
she’s
right „
there.” }

» neda bahrani, freshman in biology



Caitlin Harrington, sophomore in art history, jokes around with her sister Megan, a senior in English. The Harrington duet spent time together even though they were not living in the same place.



Samantha Smith
junior in ACES,
relaxes with her dad,
George Smith, outside
Geovanti's restaurant.
Dad's weekend
features numerous
University-planned
activities as well as
the football game and
campus parties.

Fred Jones, senior in
ACES, enjoys dinner
and a few drinks with
his father, Paul Jones,
during dad's week-
end. Many students
choose to take their
dad's out for a night
on the town, showing
them all of their
favorite places.



“it’s just
nice
seeing
{ parents with
their kids and
parents trying to re-live their

old college days.”

» sara lee, senior in LAS

like father, like child

dad's spend quality time with their kids during dad's weekend

Every fall, students at the University are joined by Illini dads in celebration of Dad's Weekend. Sponsored by the University Dad's Association, the annual event is an 85-year-old tradition including a reception, banquet and tent party before the home-football game, where "King Dad" is crowned.

George Kohut, president of the Dad's Association, drives 200 miles to visit his son for Dad's Weekend. "It's an excuse to see your son or daughter," he said. "There's a lot of pride in Illini Dads; there's a lot of pride in alumni, so there's a lot of pride in students. And you just don't see that everywhere," Kohut said.

Each year, the weekend is scheduled to coincide with a home football game, one of the weekend's most popular events. The Dad's Association personally offers 1,300 tickets for their pre-game tent party, as well as 1,100 reduced-price tickets for the football game, and both often sell out. Jim Bethune, freshman in the college of business, went to his first Illinois football game with his dad during Dad's Weekend and joked about how his dad's visit changed his schedule.

"I had to go out a lot more than I usually do," he said.

"And get up earlier than he usually does," said his dad, Richard Bethune, with a smile.

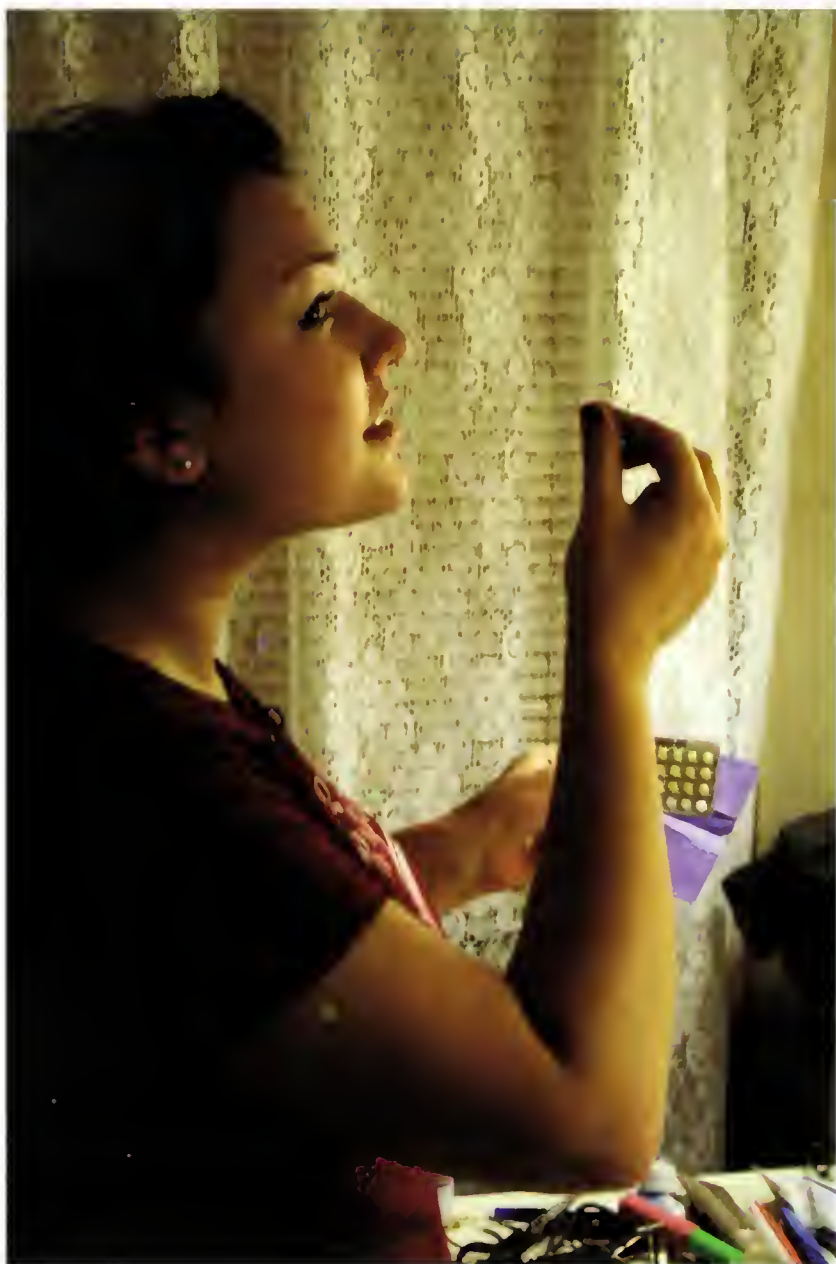
However, some students, like Robin Amado, junior in liberal arts and sciences, prefer activities other than the football game. "There are so many more things you can do. We go out to dinner, we went shopping, saw a movie and he stayed for my softball game," she said.

Whatever the activity, both students and dads welcome the chance to spend time together. Amado feels that Dad's Weekend is a great opportunity for her parents to be involved in her school life.

"Even though I go home, and I see them, I like when they're here and get to experience some of my life," she said. Giving parents and students the unique chance to share the experience of University life, dad's weekend is a long-standing tradition and the Dad's Association encourages everyone to join the celebration.

story by courtney coppernoll

photos by zak mayhum



Elizabeth Rush,
sophomore in ACES,
removes one pill from
her 28-day packet of
Yasmin, one brand
of birth control.
McKinley offers
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McKinley health
center is located on
Lincoln Ave

pricey protection

university women adjust as mckinley operates
under higher prices on birth control

For women at the University, birth control is easily accessible through the McKinley Health Center. Women rely on birth control for health reasons or for use as a contraceptive. Prices have increased recently, depending on the type and brand of birth control, leaving women to deal with the dilemma of whether or not to buy it.

McKinley offers a variety of birth controls, such as NuvaRing and Depo-Provera. They also provide an emergency contraception to many thankful women called Plan B. Yet, some of the types of birth control cost more than they did in the past. "Right now we have a list of pills that are five dollars, and some that range up to twenty-two dollars," said Carrie Abkisson, a women's health nurse practitioner at McKinley.

Abkisson explained that not all of the birth control used to be free, but despite the price raise birth control is "offered at such a low cost." Laura Homan, a sophomore in economics in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS), still buys birth control from McKinley even with the new costs. "I don't think it affects us 'birth-control users' much," Homan said. "It is unfortunate, but it is still pretty accessible."

However, for some students, sudden price changes complicated the process of receiving birth control. Sylvia Ogilvie, sophomore in LAS, found that receiving birth control from McKinley, required her to go through complicated procedures such as a bone scan in order for approval. "I would have ended up paying \$80 out of my own pocket. So instead, I just went home to my doctor that doesn't require that. It was a lot easier," Ogilvie said.

Even though the pill can be used for health reasons, there are many images of women on the pill. "I believe girls that use birth control are taking responsibility for themselves," Homan said. "If someone is going to have sex, they should take the responsibility for their actions and being on the pill is a safe alternative."

However, even with responsibility in mind, McKinley's new price change may have put up an obstacle for some women. "I think it is going to deter girls from trying to get birth control, which is unfortunate, since birth control is something that should be universally available," Ogilvie said. "I think McKinley should keep providing it for free, because making it cost money is not going to stop people from having sex, it's only going to stop them from being as protected if they can't afford it."

by Jane K. F.
and Jane K. F.

home sweet home, again



"I just felt 'orange
and blue'

{ all weekend!"
» eric swanson,
freshman in education

The quad danced
with special
events, displays,
and entertainment
throughout the week
of homecoming.



Ashley Kooyenga, Rebecca Rosenberg, Amanda Maloka, Maggie Easley, Lito Santos, Katie Homer, Anna Yee, Brittany Tu, and Dominique Malbranche sit around an orange-clothed table eating lunch during the week prior to the homecoming football game

homecoming weekend sported activities all around campus

Chants from the Illini Homecoming Parade mixed with the cacophony of Marching Illini tunes, police sirens, applause and cheering spectators. The 2007 Homecoming week featured the theme "Orange Fever," and Illini madness spread like wildfire throughout the campus, in the form of bold spirit-wear and festivities.

"There was a lot of spirit in the air... I just felt 'orange and blue' all weekend!" said Eric Swanson, freshman in education. Swanson played the horn for the Marching Illini. He said the best part of the weekend "definitely was playing on the field with the alumni band."

The football team sought a thrilling homecoming victory over Ball State to add to the madness. Illinois lagged behind by a few points at first, but with the help of the cheering fans, the Illini quickly rebounded to a 28-17 win. "I love homecoming! I'm proud to be part of the oldest homecoming in the country," said Ally Ricki, senior in education.

The University claims the first collegiate Homecoming celebration in America, an event designed to bring back alumni. The first Homecoming was held in 1910 as the product of an idea by Clarence Foss Williams and W. Elmer Ekblaw, students of the class of 1910, to bring alumni and current University students together in a yearly celebration, centered around a football game.

The Student Alumni Ambassadors played a key role in planning and promoting the 2007 Homecoming festivities. iHelp volunteer day occurred on October 13th and brought students and alumni together through community-wide projects to kick off homecoming week. Volunteer events took place within 42 organizations around Champaign, using local recreation areas, libraries and Allerton Park as additional work space.

"The idea of Homecoming is to connect alumni and students so iHelp Volunteer Day was a neat event to kick it off," said Emily Holton, student ambassador and vice president of homecoming external affairs.

Other campus wide activities included the 2007 Soccerfest, homecoming parade, pep rally and the Illini Union Board homecoming campus variety show. Unique events featuring African-American traditions included the African-American homecoming pageant, fashion show, comedy showcase and dance party. All these diverse events culminated into a unique Homecoming, truly portraying the University's "Orange Fever."

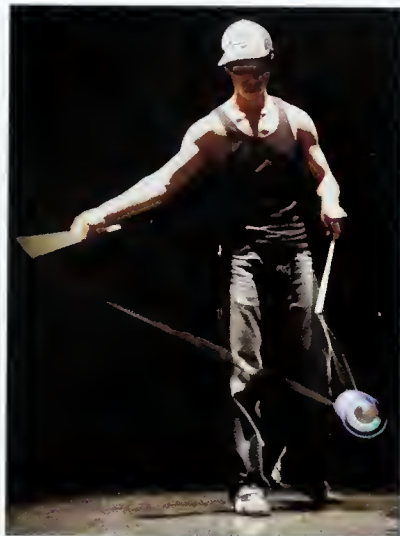
by melissa chiu
photo by blake nether

an array of homecoming activities

students and alumni alike
participate in unique activities all throughout homecoming week



Students march down Sixth Street in support of Chief Illiniwek in the homecoming parade on Friday, October 26. The crowds of Illinois students, family, and alumni will join in remembrance of the Chief. Photo by Brian...



Engineering junior
Ryan Shi exhibits
his skills with
Chinese yo-yos at
the Homecoming
Variety Show. *photo
by Chung*



Members of the
belly-dancing group
Tikhala perform at the
homecoming variety
show in Lincoln Hall
on October 26, 2007
photo by Chung



The cast of 'Pippin'
performs at the
homecoming variety
show in Lincoln Hall
on October 26, 2007.
photo by Chung

I'LL MEET YOU ON THE 22

the 22 Illini bus route has become a regular image of efficient transportation to university students and faculty

The 22 Illini is known for making stops all over campus, from the PAR-FAR dormitories, to the main library, to the Armory and the Illini Union. The bus runs seven days a week and is scheduled to arrive every ten minutes at each stop on weekdays during class hours.

"To see the little scrolling words on the front saying 'Smile, it's sunny.' It just makes your day," said Marli Bardell, junior in liberal arts and sciences (LAS).

In addition to transporting students and faculty around the University, the 22 Illini is a source of fun and efficiency to many riders. Bardell said she rides the bus to avoid being late to class or to stay out of cold or rainy weather. "One of my favorite things about riding the 22 is the people I meet," she said.

"Once, I made eye contact, and it was love immediately," he joked. Julia Kline, junior in LAS, said she often rode the 22 around campus because it was a new experience for her. "I think the 22 Illini is pretty awesome. I used to ride it for fun when I was a freshman because I am a townie, and I never had access to a city bus before," Kline said.

Allison McDaniel, junior in agricultural, consumer and environmental sciences, said that certain times are better than others to ride the 22 because of events taking place around campus. "The best day of the year to ride the bus is Halloween," McDaniel said. "Drivers dress up and you walk on and you meet a cat, and a witch and a ghost."

Others are not as enamored with the route as McDaniel. Paul Hopkins, junior in LAS, said he only takes the 22 Illini as a last resort. "It's not dependable. It's never on time," Hopkins said. "I really don't think it actually runs every ten minutes. I think they just say that."

Hopkins also said however, that taking the 22 can be an entertaining experience if you ride it late at night. "Drunk people arguing with the bus driver, trying to get them to take the bus on another route than the bus actually goes; that's probably the funniest thing," Hopkins said.

Austin Hill, senior in LAS, started a facebook group that recommends students avoid taking the 22 Illini at all costs. Hill said he avoided the 22 as much as possible his freshman year. "You could have walked wherever you wanted to go by the time it left and got you there, it seems like," he said.

Hill's facebook group provides a solution to taking the 22 by suggesting students take the 08 Orchard Downs bus instead. The Orchard Downs is the beacon of hope, Hill said. "You would never know because it's called the Orchard Downs, but it takes you to the back door of PAR."

Still, many U of I students' hearts belong to the 22 Illini. Whether students are looking for class or entertainment, or simply need to get from one place to another, riding the 22 Illini may be the answer.

“Smile, It’s Sunny.”

just makes your day.”

» marli bardell, junior in las



The 22 Illini runs around campustown all week. Frequencies differed during class hours and on weekends, but students utilized the service every day.



Kevin Walsh listens to his iPod while on his way to class. The 22 Illini circles the entire campus, making it easy on students to get from one end of campus to another.

Bob Ross relaxes with his friends at a costume party. Many students went out on halloween night, even though it fell on a Wednesday.



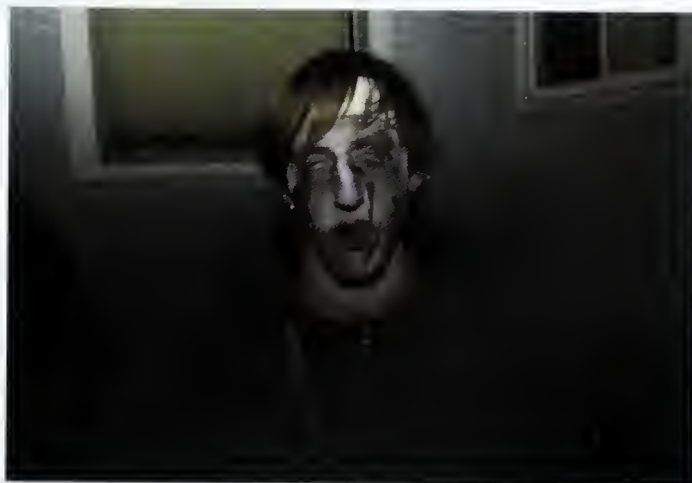
champaign's finest,
out for witching hour

"i'd say if you're
gonna make a costume,
{ then get
a lot of tape. "



» sonya avendo, freshman in education

Fi Ferrer, senior in advertising, enjoys entangling her friends at a halloween party. Some participants choose to purchase their costumes at stores such as Dallas and Co. while others choose a less conventional route and home-make their costumes.



Members of Allen Hall dress as zombies for their annual trudge down Green Street. Many students used face paint, jewelry, and hair dye to create a unique costume.

students go all out on halloween

While the children of Champaign-Urbana are trick-or-treating, college students are in their dorms making their own transformations for a night out. Walking down Green Street on Halloween night brought sights of students' costumes, ranging from ghouls and ghosts to nurses and super heroes.

"My friends and I were actually a bubble bath and we made it ourselves," said Sonya Avendano, freshman in education. Avendano and her friend, Monica Neris, freshman in psychology, settled on the bubble-bath idea after searching for a unique costume online. "We were looking online at cheap costumes and found some Web site with a bunch of homemade ones, and this little kid [was] dressed up as a bathtub. We decided we'd do it ourselves," Neris said.

Like Avendano, many students sifted through thrift stores to find some costume loot that was both useful and unique. "You'd be surprised how much you can find there that would work for costuming purposes.

For people who don't have sewing skills, finding pieces of clothing that are actual clothing that you can use for another purpose [is an] easier way to go," said James Finkle, sophomore in computer science. Many students found creative, sew-free ways to keep their homemade costumes together.

"I'd say if you're gonna make a costume, then get a lot of tape," Avendano said. Dallas and Company, a year-round costume shop on University Avenue in Champaign, is always busy with students' costume needs. The store extended their hours around the holiday, very helpful for last-minute shoppers.

"In the month of October you can rent a costume, take it that day, bring it back in November, and it's still the same one-day price," said Wes Schield, manager at Dallas and Company. "We always try to make it easy for people to come in and not have to fight the crowds when they come back."

With the Halloween spirit alive in Champaign, it seems dressing up for a night was just as exciting in college as it was as at five-years-old.

by Lauren Laws
photo by Tim Jesman

illinois in iraq

student-rotc members explain their willingness to join

An American flag hung behind CPT Daniel Heim in the sixth floor lounge of Illini Towers as he addressed members of the registered student organization "Support the Troops, One Front United." The RSO invited CPT Heim to share his experiences in Iraq, along with giving the group advice on what to send troops for its care package drive.

"It's a great time to be in uniform because people really care," he said during his address. CPT Heim is the scholarships and enrollment officer for the Army ROTC Fighting Illini Battalion. He joined the Illini last year from the 82nd Airborne division out of Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

After two tours of duty overseas and suffering daily headaches caused by a severe concussion during a parachute training exercise, the West Point graduate decided to begin the process of leaving the Army. "I'd like to transition from the military to law school next fall," he said. "At that point I'll have 6 years of service."

CPT Heim said that no matter how bad it gets in law school, "It's not that bad – I'm going home tonight." He said in today's Army there are many uncertainties: whether or not you'll be deployed, or even how long a deployment will last. Over the past few years, soldiers have had their tours extended by months at a time and recovery between deployments shortened. The Bush administration has been criticized for mobilizing the National Guard to Iraq and Afghanistan, and has been slow to promise a withdrawal of troops.

At a time when CPT Heim is looking to end his Army career, Mike Casey, cadet command sergeant major, is looking forward to starting his. Casey, a senior in LAS, knew the wartime situation he was getting into when he received a federal scholarship for ROTC, his freshman year.

Like many other stories over the past six years, Casey was hit hard by the events of September 11, 2001. "I guess I'm just one of those guys that when it happened I was like, whoa, there are actually people out there who don't like us," he said. "I just felt like I needed to do something." The continuing war does not diminish his sense of duty, and he knows he would serve no matter the outlook.

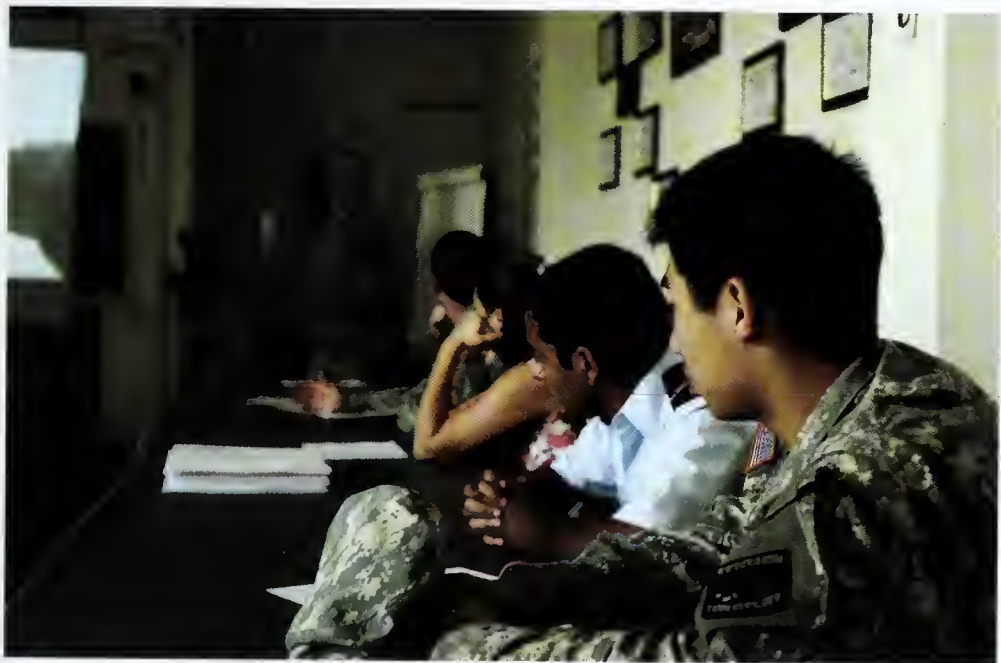
"I'm nervous, of course," Casey said. "Whether or not it's getting better (in Iraq) wouldn't really make that much difference." Casey knows that, looking back on his life, he would like to know he stood up for his country the same way millions did during World War II.

"That's also why I kind of wanted to join, because everyone's grandpa was in World War II," he said. "Is (the Iraq war) going to be one of those things where people look back and say 'oh, so what did your grandpa do during the war?'"



These colors don't run.

An ROTC artillery unit trains in the fields west of Memorial Stadium. ROTC members participated in training exercises in addition to their classes.



Members and non-members of ROTC watch the movie Killer Angels in Military Science 101 while learning about leadership values. Military classwork peppers the class schedule of the ROTC member.

more than just money

students supplement their studies with real-world experiences

Extra money can be hard to come by for some students. But some make money by working for themselves. Ryan Clark, sophomore in accounting, has not only become a student entrepreneur with one business, but he has successfully started and maintained numerous online businesses. These include Hostivo.com, a webhosting site; LudaKicks.com, an online shoe store; 247Mixtapes.com, a mix-tape downloading Web site, and Diga-Tones.com, a ringtone Web site.

"We started our businesses from having a major interest in the different markets and finding a need within them that we could better fulfill," Clark said.

By working for themselves, Clark and his brother were able to gain a large amount of business knowledge as well as the ability to make a profit. "It has affected my life because I am always thinking with an entrepreneurial mindset," Clark said. "For instance, I could be vacuuming the floor and all of a sudden think of a new idea or company."

Students with start-up businesses don't have to work entirely alone, however. Various groups on campus are dedicated to helping entrepreneurs. The University Business Developers have introduced "a concept called a 'workout partner' program. In the same way that going to the gym with a partner will motivate you, we are teaming entrepreneurs up in order to hold each other accountable for business goals."

Other organizations include Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership, Technology Entrepreneur Center, Hoeft Technology & Management Program, Illinois Business Consulting, Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization, and Chinese Entrepreneur and Professionals Club.

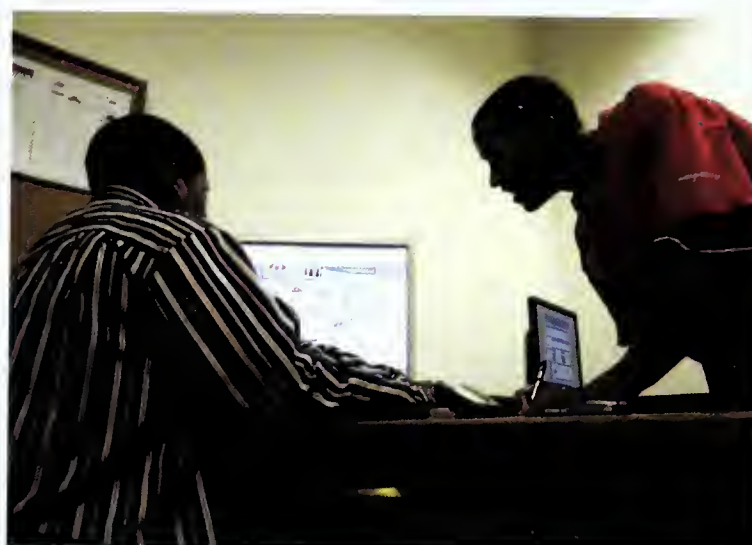
Becoming an entrepreneur may not be an easy task to manage, but the information gathered from the endeavor can be extremely valuable. "It took a lot of hard work to get to this point," Clark said. "We have dedicated customers who truly enjoy our products and services. This greatly contributes to our stability and the urge to becoming a better company."

Clark explained that having his own business reflects his personality and passion. For Clark, it is his creativity, professionalism and exclusivity that show through his business. "I believe that I portray an image of success through hard work. My grandfather always said that if you can see it, you can achieve it. I set goals not only to be reached but to be surpassed!" Clark said.

Sophomores Ashton and Ryan Clark work on their business in the ceramics building. Many students have started their own companies while in college.



Sophomores Ashton and Ryan Clark discuss their company's goals. the two run numerous entrepreneurial Web sites.



“Entrepreneurs are **vital** in the *business world*
 { because *we are willing*
 to take risks
 that others will **not** take.”

» ryan clark, sophomore in accounting

sneaking their way to a stamp

fake ID's are prevalent among the 18-year-old freshmen



Angel Sanchez, freshman in LAS, shows his real license. Like many other freshmen, Sanchez has attempted to obtain a fake ID as he is only 18 years old, but was unsuccessful.

Walking down Daniel Street past Kams and C.O. Daniels on a Saturday afternoon, a significant stench of beer from the night before seeps through the sidewalks. The trash bins are overflowing, and the bartenders are preparing for another night of fake IDs and underage drinking.

"I think because there are bars to attend, people do not find other ways to hang out," said Kaye Foley, a freshman in the college of liberal arts and sciences.

Because 19 is the 'magic age' to get into bars in Champaign, some freshmen are welcome to join the party. "I'd rather have it at 19 instead of people sneaking in for three more years," Foley said.

While there are some freshmen that are 19 and legally allowed to enter, there is also a large chunk that are not 19. In 2004 and 2005, the Champaign Police Department diligently tried to catch fake IDs, said Sgt. Scott Friedlein, who has been on the service for over 22 years. "We found that 1,457 IDs that were used illegally," Friedlein said.

The amount of fake IDs officers obtained leads to the conclusion that women get in with fakes easier than men. Friedlein explains that the employment of a female doorman may be an effective solution to this problem. "Guys see a female and she gets in because she is cute," Friedlein said. "We see this pretty routinely."

Friedlein classified fake IDs under two categories: IDs that are 19, so people can enter a bar, and IDs that are 21, so students can purchase alcohol. Yet, the fact that there are users of fake IDs for any purpose in attendance each night presents the question of where they got it.

"Freshmen coming into school look to older siblings and friends for connections," said Brittany Anselmo, freshman in the college of business. Roberto Medina is a junior in the college of engineering and has never used a fake ID, but says he understands those that do. "This college community runs around alcohol, and you can't change it. If you try, everyone will go into chaos," Medina said.

by jessica koval

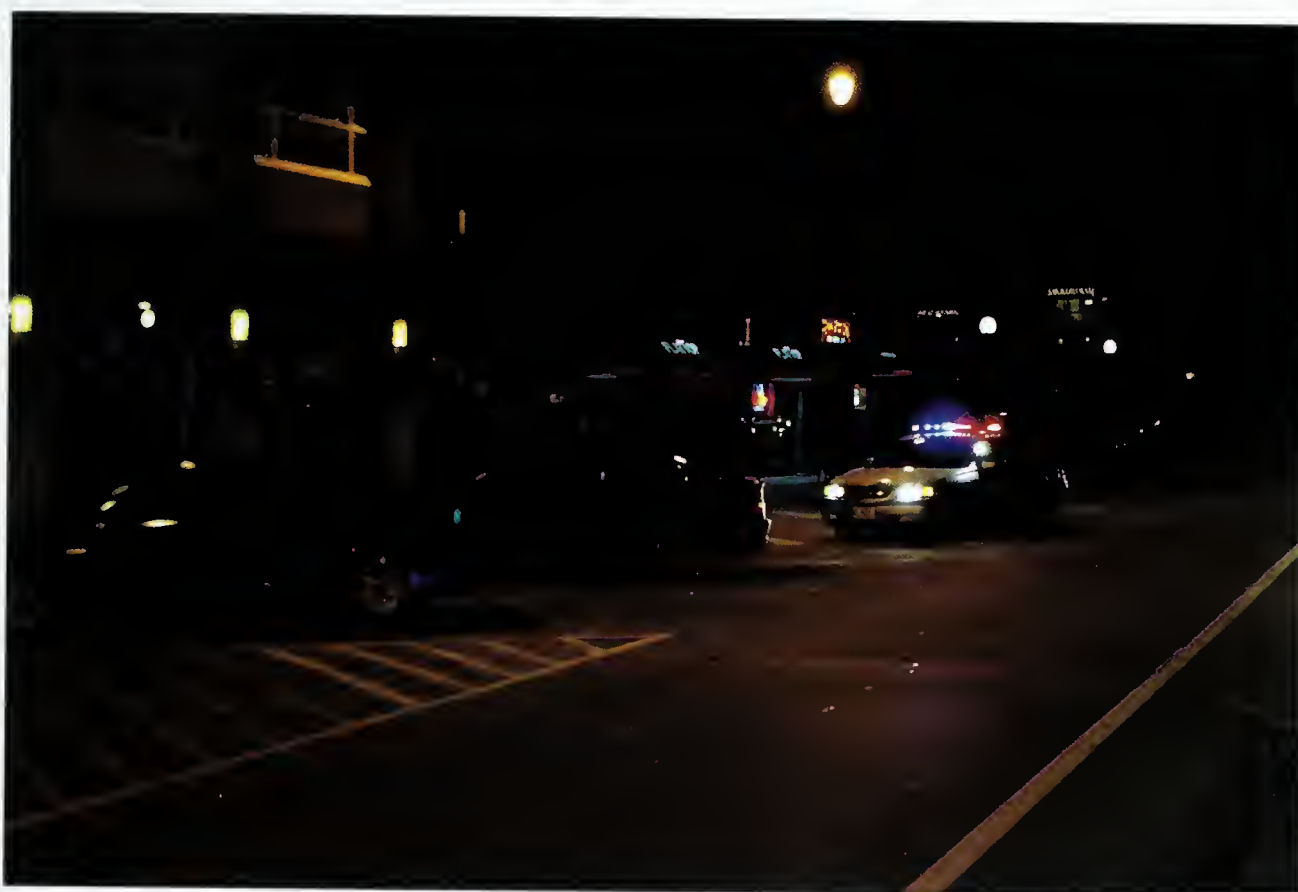
blake miller

“To fit in, people will do ANYTHING.” }
 » roberto medina, junior in engineering

The famous Murphy's Pub is a common hang out for underage drinkers. If caught drinking in this bar, underage drinkers were given tickets by the police.



Police sit outside of a campus bar waiting to go inside and find underage drinkers on the scene. Bar raids were common in campus bars.





Guitar-playing Billy Jonas interacts with freshmen guitar players, teaching and learning songs from the students. Many dorm events are geared toward bringing students with similar hobbies and interests together.

“my personal *goal* is
 { multiculturalism,
 promoting cultures
 that are not necessarily
 at reach.”

» randy champagne, senior in computer engineering and P.A. for Allen Hall

from friends to family

dorm employees work to bring students together through organized events

Flamboyant speed-dating adventures, fascinating lectures on Iraqi cultures and pumpkin-carving extravaganzas are among the wealth of events taking place in University residence halls. Each resident hall has both resident directors and program advisors who plan events geared toward fostering close-knit student connections. Students also form compelling clubs within their respective residence halls.

"The PAs really work with you to get clubs started and everything. There's a lot of student involvement," said Melissa Steiner, freshman in English.

"Programming definitely is essential in having a place feel like a community. My desire is to promote education in a less traditional but more cultural way," said Randy Champagne, a senior in computer engineering and a program advisor for Allen Hall.

Residence halls hold group excursions and volunteer opportunities at the local or national level and trips to Chicago for anything from basketball games to operas. The pumpkin patches and corn mazes are fall favorites for residents of the University. Allen Hall holds a "Night Under the Stars," during which residents may bond by camping outside.

"People are so involved. Everyone wants to do something," said Troy Brundage, sophomore in journalism and music history. Brundage described his resident hall experience as a mix between school and summer camp.

University housing programs promote events that are diverse and voluntary and completely left up to the students to choose their level of participation. Living-Learning communities on campus especially encourage high levels of student participation and interaction within their respective residence halls emphasizing themes of racial equality and cultural awareness. Living-Learning communities that stress globalization in their programming include Global Crossroads; Health Professions; Intersections; Leadership Experience through Academic Development and Service (LEADS); Unit One; Weston Exploration; and Women in Math, Science, and Engineering (WIMSE). These communities host guests who give performances or educational seminars to broaden the perspectives of University students.

"My personal goal is multiculturalism, promoting cultures that are not necessarily at reach," said Champagne. "The consensus is to create a good community, and that means having a diversity of programs that keeps the community vibrant."

Dorm events brought students together for bonding and educational activities. Through the residence halls' efforts to promote multiculturalism, globalization and community, the University is producing a more diverse and accepting student body.

by: melissa chua
photo: roscanne o'connor

Billy Jonas works with dorm residents to create music with numerous odd objects. Dorms often hosted unique events in an effort to get all students involved



green street gets a facelift

construction along green street pledges to update the busy campus street



Fences line green street because of recent construction in numerous places

In the fall of 2007, there were multiple construction projects on Green Street, which is considered by many to be the heart of the University. Green Street also is a place where popular bars, restaurants and apartments are located. Three property-management companies in particular are main players in the changing face of Green Street.

Bankier Apartments' residential townhomes are being constructed near the corner of Sixth Street and Green Street. The 1,500 square-foot townhomes are luxury homes with four bedrooms and three full baths, along with state-of-the-art appliances. "There is a New-York loft style and feel to these townhouses," said Sean Schofidd, property manager with Bankier. The cost of rent in these townhouses begins at \$650 per person, without any utilities included.

"The people staying here will most likely be undergraduates because it is close to the bars," Schofidd said. "All the other stores on Green Street, the quad, and campus also bring in the undergrads."

An indian vegetarian restaurant, and a closed recording company's office were removed to make space for these. Construction began in August and during this time, a section of the sidewalk was boxed in to allow pedestrians to walk safely down the street.

Another construction site on Green Street was located next to National City Bank and across from the Illini Media Building. The parking lot that used to be there was demolished to make room for a seven-story retail and office building owned by JSM Property. The building is supposed to be completed by late spring, 2008. "The construction might have some impact on the traffic, but it's temporary," said Mike Tankersley, an architect with JSM.

The construction continued with a project operated by Roland Realty. Constructed by Broeren-Russo, a 24 story apartment complex with 750 units of both two and four bedrooms is being built a few blocks down. The complex was scheduled to be available for leasing by fall of 2008.

Green Street seems to keep up with the times, as new buildings and higher skylines are constructed. Proximity to restaurants, bars and campus has made Green Street a hot spot and popular place to live. The construction seems to be extensive, but is expected to continue to evolution of the street.



"it's kind of a **mess**

but *everything*

is being

upgraded,

{

and that's

definitely a GOOD thing."

» amy schumacher, junior in speech and hearing science

Some say Green
Street construction
has caused Green
Street destruction in
many areas.

BE STRONG, BE UNIQUE, BE UNITED, BE ...FAKE?

greek members fight stereotypes on a daily basis

Every year, new and returning students have the chance to become members of the Greek community by joining one of the 97 sororities or fraternities on campus. Students who choose to "Go Greek" say that the system promotes friendship, leadership, scholarship, service and social advancement. Yet, non-Greek students may have a very different idea of what the Greek system represents, and there is more than one negative stereotype against Greek life on campus.

Peter Killian, a senior in the college of liberal arts and sciences, felt that students join the Greek system to socialize and said, "It just seems like it's another way for college students to get together and drink and have wild parties. It's a lot of alcohol, a lot of sex, a lot of parties." Killian also believed that Greek students don't take their education seriously because they would rather be partying. "Parents and advisors trust you to get an education, not to test the limits of your liver or to see how many STDs you might contract. There are so many other things that you could be doing that are more useful with your time," he said.

Some non-Greek students, such as Nick Fogle, sophomore in the Institute of Aviation, felt that joining the Greek community required students to sacrifice their individuality. "You have to want to party all the time and be able to do what the frat brothers want you to do and just be a complete follower and do everything that all the Greeks do. And they have shirts that say 'Be Unique,' and there's like seven of them with the same shirt on," he said, sarcastically.

Yet, students belonging to the Greek community view Greek life in a much more positive light. Elizabeth Rahn, junior in the college of business and member of Panhellenic Council, believed that Greeks are stereotyped as partying too much because most of the interaction between Greek and non-Greek students occurred in

social settings. "Most people see Greeks when the entire campus community is out. People are out at bars or out at parties so they see Greeks partying and getting drunk," Rahn said. "They don't see us at our philanthropy events or at service events."

Another Greek student, Amanda Dexter, sophomore in applied health sciences, loved the sisterhood she experienced within her sorority. Dexter said, "I have a home away from home that I could go to with girls that will be there for me if I ever need them. I know I could count on them for anything." Dexter also mentioned that the Greek system does a lot of philanthropy events at the University to raise money for charities and foundations. "If you're looking for a way to do service, that's the Greek system. It's not just about going out. It's about doing good for the community," she said.

Eric Bill, senior in LAS and member of Interfraternity Council, stressed the Greek community's efforts to promote academic excellence and diversity amongst its members. "We're trying to foster a community where kids really see that their fraternity should be an asset to their education, where they really feel like, when they come out of Champaign-Urbana, that they got a wealth of experience and exposure to people of different races, different backgrounds, and different economic levels," Bill said.

Bill also recognized the basis for some Greek stereotypes but hoped that Greek students would work to contradict negative opinions of the Greek community. "I think sometimes there is a limited perspective that Greeks have of non-Greeks and non-Greeks have of Greeks. Stereotypes sometimes cause us to have prejudices, but I would say it's really on us to challenge the stereotypes that we believe exist out there," he said.

by Courtney Coppernoll
and Blake Miller



Kristina Quinn (Chi Omega), sophomore in integrated biology, walks to her class, wearing her UGG boots, a typical sorority girl image. Sorority members are not the only UGG owners, however.

"If you're
looking for a way
to do
service,

that's the
Greek_{system.}

It's not just about
going out.

It's about doing good
for the community. "

» amanda dexter, sophomore in applied health sciences



Lindsey Kremer (Kappa Alpha Theta), freshman in human nutrition, is considered by some as the 'typical' sorority girl, wearing sweatpants and a sorority hoodie. Kremer was one of many choosing to dress down for class - greek and non-greek alike.

paint the hall...pink?

the normally orange-clad Illini come out
in droves of pink to support breast cancer research

Illini Madness is an annual kickoff party for the Illini basketball season held as the first official practice for the men's and women's teams. Students, faculty and members of the community come together to see the teams be introduced and watch scrimmages and shooting contests. They show their support for the teams in the upcoming season by sporting Illini orange...and pink?

This year, for the first time, Illini Madness included a charity fundraiser for Coaches vs. Cancer in honor of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The fundraiser asked Illini Madness goers to shed their traditional Illini orange for a pink T-shirt, sold at Gameday Spirit. The seven-dollar, pink T-shirts served as both the uniform and the ticket to the Illini Madness event. For each shirt sold, \$2 went to Coaches vs. Cancer.

The new twist on this event transformed the familiar Assembly Hall sea of orange into a tidal wave of pink as over 12,000 pink-clad fans paraded into the Hall Oct. 12. Many fans did not stop with the T-shirt. Pink hair, jewelry and bandanas added to the rosy image and pink cotton candy was sold.

Beginning at 9 p.m., Illini Madness featured various dance groups such as Hip-notic and Brickheadz, scrimmages, a 3-point contest and a slam dunk contest. "We talked about making basketball history by painting the hall pink and we did it," said Coach Weber, amid the roar of enthusiastic cheering from the crowd. "This is an unbelievable response from the campus and the community. There's no better place in the country than the University of Illinois and Assembly Hall."

The event raised \$40,000 for Coaches vs. Cancer. The Orange Krush also raised an additional \$7,500 for the charity. Chris Hanna, the assistant athletic director for sales and marketing, was pleased with the turnout. "We had 10,000 people come each of the last two years, and this year, we had 12,000," Hanna said.

Students generally responded positively to the switch from orange to pink. "I thought it was great," said Jonathan Bluemke, senior in liberal arts and sciences. "I wasn't one of those guys who was like, 'I'm not gonna wear pink.' I wore it. It was for a good cause."

Despite its success, Hanna said this was the only year for the pink T-shirts. "The first time you do something, it's different; the second time, it's less effective," Hanna said. "We wanted this to be one-of-a-kind." It certainly was – the image of the one-time pink-filled Assembly Hall is an unforgettable standout in Illini fan history.

—by [illegible] and [illegible]
—photos by [illegible]



Illinois' Men's Basketball scrimmages in Assembly Hall during Illini Madness. The men played in the annual orange and blue game in front of 12,000 fans.

"We wanted this to be one-of-a-kind."

» chris hanna,
assistant athletic director

Illinois freshman center Mike Tisdale competes in the dunk contest during Illini Madness. Fans were treated to a number of events and a team scrimmage throughout the night.



beware: the freshman 15

men and women alike fight to fend off the dreaded college weight gain



Sophomore Justin Cudmore inhales his root beer float in the dining hall. There are many food options that are not considered healthy in cafeterias.

Upon entering college, freshmen are usually warned by their peers about the possibilities of the freshman 15. There is some evidence to support the claim. "I believe in it one-hundred percent because I had it," said Denise Biggs, junior in accounting. "I could definitely tell that I'd put on about five to ten pounds."

The freshman 15 does not occur overnight of course. Over time, however, various factors play in to the cause of weight gain, such as overeating. "I would say just the abundance of not-so-healthy food, especially like what you find in the cafeterias can be a problem," said Mark Shelton, sophomore in history. "The cheap food is usually not what's the healthiest."

Dorm food is also not always of the best quality and can also lead to overeating. According to *Eat Dorm Food Wisely*, the buffet style cafeterias can be detrimental to fighting weight gain. "Just because you can go through a line for three full plates doesn't mean you should."

Alcohol can also be a problem. "Drinking adds a lot of calories, so I would say drinking adds a lot of weight," said Biggs. Other contributing factors include lack of activity, and lack of motivation to eat, such as stress or boredom. However, to every problem there is a solution, and the freshman 15 isn't any different. "I try to walk everywhere I have to go and not ride the bus as much," said Sarah Dixon, freshman in history.

There are numerous gyms and centers on campus that offer students a place to exercise. CRCE in Urbana, IMPE in Champaign and the Ice Arena are all place students can go. Also, there are two full-time registered dieticians on campus that are available to help educate students about losing weight safely.

Studies say female students shouldn't worry too much about the possibility of gaining fifteen pounds. "The freshman 15 may be a little exaggerated because studies have shown that women, who gain weight, gain between two and one-half to seven pounds," Dr. Ruot, a dietician at McKinley Health Center, said.

Photo by Lauren Terry
for The Daily Illini

Students enjoy 'Route 66 night' at Allen Hall. Dorms often hold themed dinners that are not necessarily healthy.



Justin Cudmore, Mike Azzarello, and Nathan Pollard enjoy 'Route 66 night' at Allen Hall. The night features different buffet-style food items, enticing freshmen to eat more than they should.

Fast food is prevalent in dorms and on campus, hindering students' ability to avoid the freshman 15.



smokin' something legal?

salvia joins the ranks of common experimental drugs

"Legal pot:" Two words sure to catch anyone's attention. This and other nicknames like "magic mint" and "diviner's sage" are used in reference to salvia divinorum, a type of sage that has become very popular as a psychedelic drug comparable to mushrooms and LSD. The kicker – it's legal.

Salvia divinorum, commonly known as salvia, contains salvinorin A, a natural psychotropic compound that is considered to be one of the most potent in existence. Depending on the intensity of the high, salvia can cause hallucinations, severe impairment and even loss of consciousness.

While salvia is advertised and promoted as a "visionary herb," it recently gained popularity as a recreational or party drug used as a legal substitute for other hallucinogens. Joe Green, senior in LAS, has tried salvia once with his friends as an alternative to marijuana. "I was sort of surprised this stuff was legal," Green said. "We felt like we hit the jackpot."

Green said that salvia was recommended to him by a friend, who described it as 'fun and intense.' Those in favor of its legality argue that the effects it does have are short-lived and it is not habit-forming. For these reasons and the fact that salvia is a relatively new drug – it started gaining attention in the early '90s – salvia has still managed to stay legal in most countries and the majority of the United States.

Trends of salvia being viewed as "legal pot" drew more government attention. Illinois recently passed a bill that listed salvia divinorum as a schedule I drug under the Controlled Substances Act as of Jan. 1, 2008. Cannabis and heroin are other drugs listed in this category.

Shannon Wright works at Undercover, an on-campus smoke shop and attributes the delay in legislation to the fact that salvia is so new. Undercover does not sell salvia because of its controversial nature, but Wright said she hears plenty of stories while at work. "I would say that compared to everything else, salvia is the safest," Wright said.

Wright also points out a possible risk of banning salvia. "I think making it illegal will push people toward the heavier stuff," Wright said. "I think they're better off keeping it legal." Amidst such controversy, the image of salvia as a peaceful, meditative herb is rather lost, giving way to one that is immersed in debate and uncertainty.



Salvia is a legal hallucinogen sold at some smoke shops on campus and marketed as incense. Recently there has been much debate as to whether this substance should remain legal

"i've *heard* a lot of **stories**

about **BAD** highs

and **BAD** trips,

{ but **i don't notice** any of those
side effects in people

using **SALVIA** so far."

» shannon wright, Undercover employee



Bill and Helen Harrison, Class of 1955, tailgate before the football team takes on the University of Michigan. Alumni are a large portion of the crowd at sporting events, even though they are scattered about the country after they graduate.

a foundation for fame

alumni display excellence in all walks of life



Awards and Honors are only given to the most reputable professors. Many professors elect to place their awards on display at the University.

The University has produced many distinguished and famous alumni. Due to excellence in many academic areas, the famous alumni encompass a variety of fields. There are Noble Prize winners, like John Schrieffer in physics and Philip Sharp in chemistry. Mark Van Doren and Robert Lewis Taylor have won Pulitzer prizes, in poetry and fiction, respectively. The presidents of the University of Wisconsin and the University of Florida both received degrees from the University of Illinois. Mannie Jackson, former professional basketball player and current owner of the Harlem Globe Trotters, received his education here and many famous alumni have connections to the University that make the school more prestigious to the benefit of current students in several ways.

In 2005, the movie *Brokeback Mountain* took the world by storm. The director, Ang Lee, won an Academy Award. Lee entered the world of directing during his years at the University of Illinois. Lee majored in theater and directed productions at the Armory and Kranert. His former professor, Dean Robert Graves, had Ang in at least six different classes. Graves remembers Lee's talent, recalling it was "obvious that he was very imaginative and very sharp."

While Hugh Hefner, Gene Hackman, Roger Ebert and Nelson Algren, a national book award winner, all followed different career paths, they all received their starts in the University's journalism department and/or with Illini Media. Hefner majored in psychology while working for Illini Media. This prepared him for his future in the magazine industry and his launching of *Playboy*. Hefner also wrote for the publication 'Shaft.' Fellow alumnus Roger Ebert wrote for the *Daily Illini* during his days at Illinois. Brian Atlas, sophomore in communications and sports writer for the *Daily Illini*, believes the realistic atmosphere of the *Daily Illini* helped prepare Hefner and Ebert for their careers.

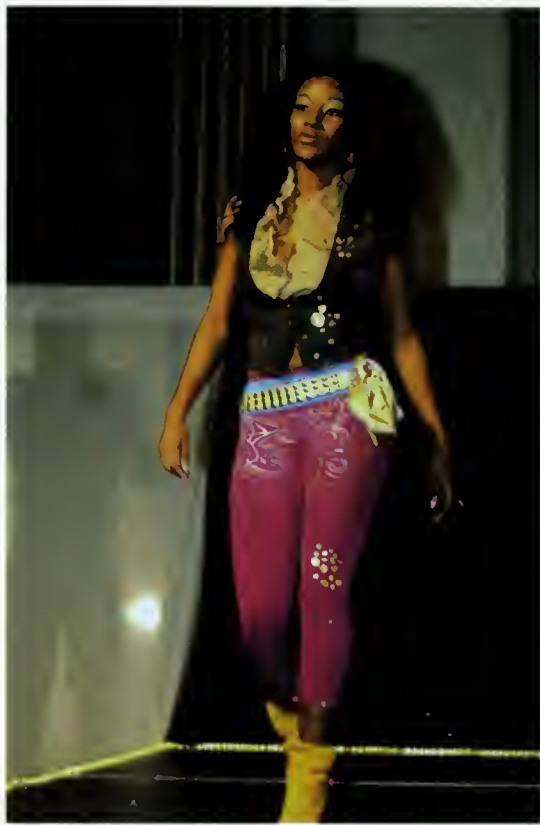
"There's nothing like getting to the D.I. building at 9:45 a.m. with notes from your press conference and a 10:15 a.m. deadline," he said. "Nothing can prepare you for it until you experience the pressure for yourself."

Ebert, Hackman and Algren received degrees in journalism from the college of communications. Atlas said, "The journalism program does a great job preparing you for the future." As a journalism student you venture into the working field and have interviews and deadlines. The University's strong academics prepared these men for their careers, Algren's as an author and Ebert's as a journalist. Hackman, the Academy-Award winning actor, received a degree in television production as well as journalism, which helped prepare him for his career as an actor.

The University prides itself on its strong academics. Having distinguished alumni reinforces the University's reputation for excellence. Atlas said "It looks good for the school," and it "speaks volumes about the journalism department." Graves agreed that the distinguished alumni reflect well upon the University, in part because the alumni give back to the University. Roger Ebert holds his annual Overlooked Film Festival in Champaign. Lee has been back to Illinois on a few occasions and shows pride in his alma mater. Graves said, "We are proud to have him." Atlas felt that students benefit because "people have done it and risen to the top." He added that it is a "glimmer of hope for the future."

story by alissa groeninger

photos by luann nicolosi



Joanna Aguirre, sophomore in LAS, walks the runway in an original by Megan Maldonado. She designed numerous outfits for the show

“It enhanced my social life,
and I was **the work paid off**
really happy with it.”

» joanna aguirre, fashion show model

Fatima Salazar, junior in LAS, and her partner display designs from local boutiques around campus. Clothes for the Latino/a fashion show were collected from all over campus

fashion frenzy

students flock to the annual latino/a fashion show

The roars from the annual Latino/a Fashion Show in the Illini Union could be heard from the patio, outside. As the music began, you could feel the vibrations of the bass on the floor, the lights went off and the models emerged from a curtain leading to the stage, causing the audience to stand and whistle.

The show was divided into many scenes, all with a different theme. The crowd applauded during the elegant formal wear scene and whistled enthusiastically for the beach scene. Other scenes included night-life wear as well as a showcase called funky-raw, featuring apparel designed by Meagan Maldonado.

"She hand-sewed everything," said Joanna Aguirre, a model and sophomore in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS). "The models provided her clothes and she added pearls and patches to them."

Some of the apparel was owned by students who thought it would fit a scene, and other clothes were sponsored by vendors. While the models strutted down the catwalk, extra entertainment was provided by the dance group Caliente. They posed behind a screen during every scene displaying their silhouettes.

"We underestimated how tired the dancers would be," Aguirre said. "At times, we had models posing back there too, but this show came out with more of an explosion with the silhouettes." Fatima Salazar, junior in LAS, modeled for the Latino/a for the first time this year. "My friends pushed me to the audition. I am usually shy but it was fun," Salazar said. After the models were chosen, much organization and practice went into the show.

"Dress rehearsal started Friday evening and then Saturday, before the show, we started practicing at nine in the morning," said Salazar. During practices, models received tips on walking. "You always should start with your left foot," explained Salazar.

By the audience's reaction and the model's confidence, the show ran very smoothly. Backstage, however, things turned hectic with outfit changes. "When you were done modeling, you had three girls ready to strip you down into another outfit," said Aguirre.

Most models had about three outfits to model in and even though it was hectic, last year's show contained more models than this year's show, "which made last year backstage even more crazy," explained Aguirre. "I really liked the hectic environment though."

story by annie koval

photos by ian lesueur

a thousand splendid candles

indian organizations illuminate the quad in celebration of diwali

Every year around Thanksgiving, the Indian organizations on campus get together to celebrate the Indian festival of lights called Diwali.

In Champaign, the celebration entailed lighting the quad with thousands of candles, a cultural program and a traditional Indian dinner. But it is the lighting that has made this festival popular on campus. Once all the candles were lit, the quad looked as though it had been lined with one million fairy lights.

The event was organized by the Indian Graduate Students Association (IGSA). The IGSA invited everyone interested to light a candle and enjoy it once all were lit. More than 300 students came out to help light the candles.

The crowd consisted of Indians, caucasians, Germans and even Mediterranean students. Karl Dash-Gruschow, a Ph.D. student in psychology, and his wife Nicola said that they had seen the quad lit up like this for the past three years. They had joined the celebrations the previous year and had come to know about it from the IGSA mailing list.

"Diwali should be made a religious holiday on our campus," Karl Dash-Gruschow said.

Within an hour and a half, 1,300 candles were lit. The evening was a windy one, however. "I am so impressed with the perseverance of the people relighting these candles over and over again," Nicola Dash-Gruschow said.

Nicole Brown, a junior in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS) lit candles near Foellinger Auditorium with her friend Borislava Simova, a junior in LAS. "I love seeing all these people dressed up in traditional Indian dresses in this cold. It's really beautiful," Brown said.

Debakanta Mishra, the president of IGSA and a Ph.D. student in the department of civil and environmental engineering, said, "Diwali is such a huge festival in India that this event on our campus gives the students an opportunity to come together and celebrate it with Indians and Americans too."



A lone candle sits on the sidewalk of the quad during the beautiful holiday of Diwali. The candle ceremony was hosted by the IGSA.

Students and faculty
lit candles on the
quad in celebration
of Diwali. Candles
have been used
as part of the
celebration on
campus for the last
three years.



The Union appears
much brighter when
candles line the quad
on the holiday
of Diwali. Participants
came from many
different ethnic
backgrounds to
witness the event

EXIT TO CAMPUS

a certain sign lets students know that they are back on campus

At the end of every holiday break or a weekend spent at home, students must make the inevitable journey back to campus. For some, the trip may be as short as a ten minute drive from Mahomet, while others may spend hours on a train or bus from the Chicago suburbs. Whatever distance or direction students may be traveling, they know their journey is almost complete when they see the University exit signs welcoming them back to campus.

Kat Kramer, junior in liberal arts and sciences (LAS), had about a two-hour drive to reach campus from her hometown, and she said she liked seeing the exit sign for the University because it marks the end of an uninteresting trip.

"It's kind of nice to see the sign because the drive here is boring and long, so when I see it I'm like, 'Finally, I'm back home,'" Kramer said. Mitchell Farag, sophomore in LAS, also has a long drive to campus and said that he'd like to be welcomed back by an exit sign that better represents the University.

"I think they should make it more exciting. I mean, it's just a plain sign," Farag said. "They should decorate it, like paint it orange and blue, or put up another sign just for the University."

Junior in LAS Sandra Lu still gets excited to see the exit sign when she's nearing campus because then she knows she's made it back safely, even after three years at the University.

"I get lost a lot, so I need to look for the sign or else I'm gonna' blow

right past it and end up in Missouri or something," Lu said.

Some students, though, said two years of traveling to and from the University is enough time to stop noticing the campus exit sign. Ryan Mitacek, sophomore in LAS said, "If you've seen it a lot, you know, it's just a sign saying where I should get off."

Current students may not think much of coming back to campus, but that'll change once they become alumni, said Jeff Lowary, a 1996 alumnus of the college of engineering.

"I missed the place as soon as I graduated," Lowary said. "The University is just a big part of who you are, and once you go out and start a career, I think you'll wanna' come back and reflect on what was such a big part of who you are. I definitely love coming back, and I wish I could come back more."

The exit sign is where Kelly (Flynn) Lowary, a 1995 alumna of LAS, who comes back to visit the University about once a year, starts looking for changes to the campus.

"Everything always looks so different to me, so I'm always looking around, trying to see what I remember," (Flynn) Lowary said. "I think you start to feel a little more proud, kind of, that you went there. And it's one of those comforting things that you have such a wonderful institution to come back to."

Photo by Courtney Copperaoli

Photo by Brian Lesueur



“The University is just a
big part of who you **are**,
and once you go out and **start**
a career, I think you’ll want to
{ come back
and **reflect.**”

» jeff lowary, alumnus of the college of engineering, '96

On the return trip to
campus, exit signs fill
both current students
and alumni with fond
memories.

\$300 a beer seems worth it to some

underage drinking continues on campus, even as drinking tickets increase



"as a **parent,**

i'd rather have my *underage child* }
at a **bar** than at a private party. }

bars have **RULES**

while **private parties** have **bedrooms."**

» sgt. scott friedlein,
champaign police department

Many students, despite being underage and branded by the large black 'X,' find it easy to get their hands on alcohol at the bars on campus. The city and the University complain about underage drinking, yet allow students to enter bars at the age of 19.

Sarah Clemmons, a Junior in Political Science, enjoys a coke at a campus bar. Although she is only 20 and has yet to enjoy an alcoholic beverage, she is still able to hang out with her "of-age" friends at the bars since the age to enter is only 19



Ryan Best's dart-board in his apartment looks like Swiss cheese from all the holes in it. For Best, there is nothing better than sitting back and having a couple beers while playing darts. "It is safe to say that I am the most elite dart player amongst my friends," said Best with a smirk. "Even when alcohol is messing with my vision, that bulls eye still looks huge."

Best, however, never imagined playing darts and having a beer would cost him nearly \$600, all of which go into the city of Champaign. Best had been playing darts at White Horse just before its closing when the Champaign police decided to raid the bar and leave Best \$290 poorer. Three months later, the Champaign police showed up again.

The police came into White Horse and gave Best his second ticket in a four-month span after accusing Best of being the owner of a beer that was sitting on a table next to him. Champaign is one of the few cities in the state of Illinois that allows 19-year-olds to enter bars, but it is still illegal for them to be within arms reach of any alcohol.

"Students are going to find a way to get what they paid for because money is one of the main things on a college student's mind," Best said. Nearly every night, the 2 a.m. night breeze is met with the singing and yelling of students as the bars on campus close for the night. Little do students know, if they happen to cross paths with a Champaign police officer as they drunkenly stumble home, the city will get more than just the cover a student paid to get in a bar.

"The city keeps all the revenue if the defendant pays the ticket before it is filed with the court system," said council member Tom Bruno. At \$290 each, drinking tickets generate thousands of dollars in revenue each year. In 2006, there were 691 underage drinking tickets and students paid \$210,235 to the city of Champaign.

"Drinking tickets are not going to stop underage drinking," Best said as he takes a sip out of his Keystone with a gratifying smile on his face. "If they really want to stop underage drinking then they should not allow underage people in to bars."

Sgt. Scott Friedlein of the Champaign Police Department feels differently. "As a parent, I'd rather have my underage child at a bar than at a private party," Friedlein said. "We are just trying to keep people safe."

by Sarah Clemmons
photo by Justin Johnson

finding faith on campus

students demonstrate diversity through religion

The University is home to students from different backgrounds and with different futures laid out before them. In spite of their differences, each student must find something to believe in. While religious and spiritual beliefs are very personal choices, many students found comfort in groups on campus that help them worship and offer an opportunity for faith while at college. While some may attend churches, temples, mosques, or other places of prayer at home, at Illinois, student groups provide a sense of family and community to help students express their personal feelings and beliefs while enjoying a well-rounded college experience.

There are many student groups at Illinois dedicated to celebrating the diversity of the University and welcome students of different religious backgrounds. One such group was The Hillel Foundation, which is the center for Jewish life on campus. Josh Richman was the internal president of Hillel's student board and a senior in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS). Richman said, "While in this overwhelming environment, there is a place where I can break away and connect through my religion." Hillel was open to anyone on campus and offered Friday-night Shabbat services as well as services on the 'high holidays' of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in the fall.

While many students were raised in homes where prayer or going to services was common, there remains the stereotype that college students don't care about religion. On such a large campus, Richman said that a main goal for students should be setting priorities and finding where your religious beliefs fall. With school work and other commitments on campus, it can be hard for some to find time for religion but not impossible, said Erum Ahmed, a senior in LAS. Ahmed was the vice president of the Muslim Students Association (MSA) on campus. MSA hosted social events, outreach and volunteer work and lectures and workshops for learning more about Islam and the Muslim faith.

"It really helps shrink the campus and get close to people," Ahmed said. "It helps you focus on what's important and helps you mature in your religion."

Growing in your beliefs was not something a student had to do alone because of the huge and diverse campus. "It's easier to grow in your faith with others," said John Carson, a sophomore in the college of agriculture and the rush chairman for the Nabor House Fraternity. Nabor house is a cooperative fraternity that helps members with fellowship and "builds a core group of community at the house," Carson said.

Whether students follow Christian, Muslim, Jewish or other types of religions, or even none at all, they can find a group whose members feel the same way they do on campus. Illinois offers many groups and opportunities to get students involved in religion shows the diverse make-up of the University.

“

It really

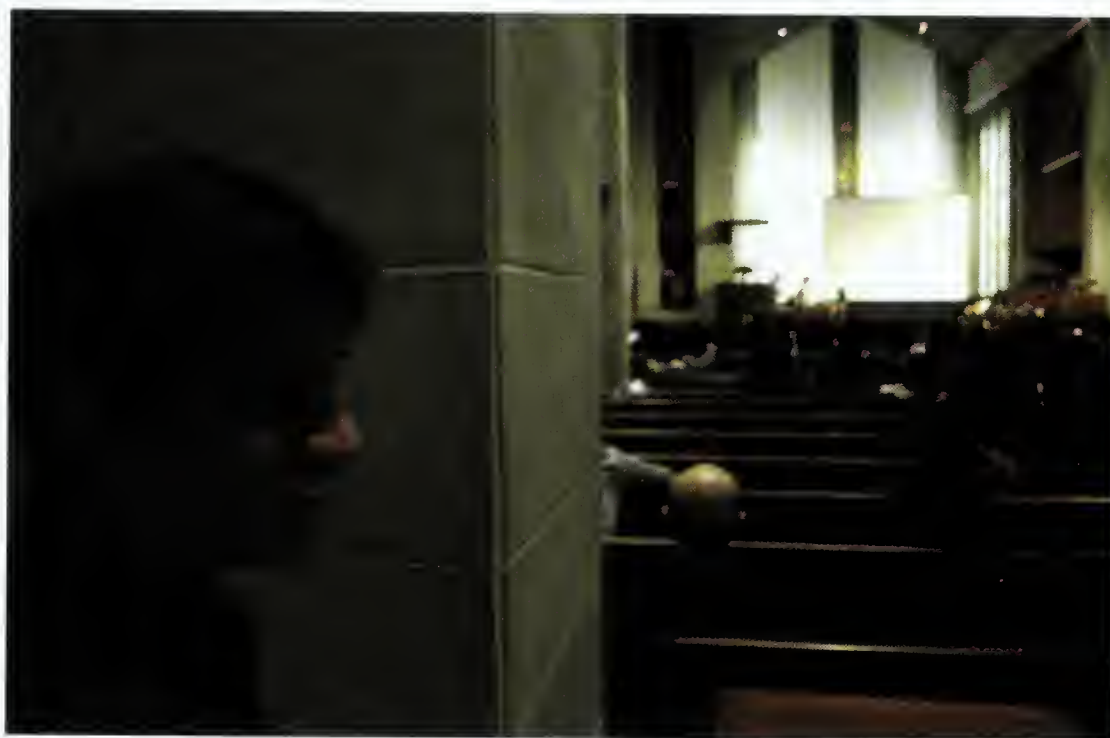
HELPS SHRINK
the campus;
{and get **close**
to people. ”

» erum ahmed, senior in las

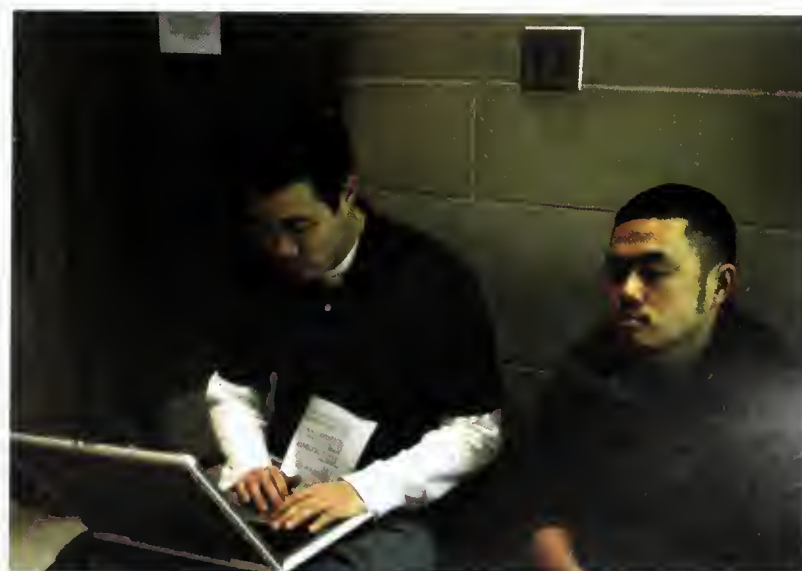
Reverend Dr. Min Joshua Chung preaches in front of the crowded Friday mass located at Wesley Christian Church. The crowd listens attentively to the words of God.



Juan Velandia, sophomore in mechanical engineering, is one of the student staff at the Covenant Fellowship Church. He attends the Friday mass as part of his weekly activity.



Alex Joe and Dennis Hong meet together to discuss their faith. Campus churches brought students together in their beliefs.





Heather Johnson, undecided freshman, waits alone at the Allen Hall bus terminal for the 2 Red North to take her home. Like many other women, the wait for her bus became tense as assaults on campus increased.

“If you feel
 { like something
 is not right,
 it probably **isn't.**”

» Lt. Roy Ackrey, university police



Heather Johnson, undecided freshman, checks her surroundings while out late at night. Even while describing her self as extroverted, Johnson became increasingly precatutious of strangers after recent campus attacks.

assaults on champaign

as attacks increase, changes are discussed

The City of Champaign saw an increase in assault and rape cases over the past four years, despite a decrease in crime. Meanwhile, the number of assault and rape cases on campus only has remained fairly constant and the crime rate has dropped 8.9 percent over the last four years. The most serious aggravated criminal sexual assault cases have risen 7.1 percent, aggravated assault cases have risen 12.8 percent and assaults have risen 17.5 percent. Because of increases, Gerald Schweighart, Mayor of Champaign, met with the police department regularly to discuss ways to combat crime. He said that he, along with his Council of advisors, tried to educate the University students and the citizens of Champaign on how to prevent and avoid assaults. "A lot of the assaults stem around the bars," Schweighart said. Since 2005, the number of aggravated battery and assault cases have slowly been increasing. Yet, forcible rape cases dropped from six cases to four from 2005 to 2006. The number rose slightly to eight reported cases in 2007.

Crime statistics are not always accurate, however, because many victims do not come forward and report the crime. University Police Lt. Roy Ackrey said many women do not report crimes against them because they feel guilty, embarrassed, scared or afraid. He said they often feel they brought the attack on themselves, making it their fault. Also, some victims who know their attacker, fear for their safety or the punishment the attacker will receive. The Mayor's Council is working with the University and the bars to help create a safer environment. In addition to information programs, the Mayor's Council has encouraged the police department to crack down on underage drinking. The hope is that this will decrease the number of rape and assault cases that occur due to alcohol.

The campus police run various programs on campus to inform the female population. Among these programs is the Rape Aggression Defense Program. This course is designed to help women maximize their assets to defend themselves. It teaches self-defense techniques that can be used in real-life situations. Awareness, prevention, risk reduction and avoidance are all taught alongside self-defense.

Ackrey encouraged students to watch their surroundings. In order to protect oneself, he encourages the use of safe rides and walking in groups. He said students should avoid walking alone at night. "If you feel like something is not right...It probably isn't," Ackrey said. "Find a store or lit-house, in addition to calling 911, if you sense that you are being followed or notice something suspicious."

story by alissa groeninger

photos by brian atchley



Becky Brothman, senior in LAS, thoroughly reads a brochure informing voters about candidates for the February 5th primaries. The primary elections were the first time many students had the chance to vote for a U.S. president.



Linden Stewart and Monica Gerhardt, both seniors in the college of communications, discuss the February 5th primary elections. Many students had strong opinions on who they voted for.

“It's a really exciting
ELECTION.

{It's time for a
change.”

» katie dawson, senior in LAS and the president of college democrats

primary 2008

students endorse obama, mccain, choice and change

Once every four years, the University, the state and the nation have the opportunity to let their voices be heard and political preferences known through a presidential election. On Feb. 5, Illinois participated in the state-wide primaries known as Super Tuesday.

Many students have strong political feelings and want to give younger voters a stronger voice in the world. "Politics has a lot to do with how much students pay for school; it affects every portion of your life and your future," said Katie Dawson, a senior in liberal arts and sciences (LAS) and the president of College Democrats. The club has a listserve of about 1,500 students and chose to endorse Barack Obama in the Illinois primary.

College Republicans, on the other hand, decided not to endorse a specific candidate but rather to support the party overall. Kelly Solomon is a senior in business and president of the College Republicans.

"Our purpose was to have information about all the different candidates and groups," Solomon said. Aside from the spread of information about different candidates, one continuing problem political activists faced on the Illinois campus was political awareness and registering students to vote. "Remember to register to vote," Dawson said. "Otherwise you might miss out on the opportunity."

Nikki Mansukhani, a freshman in LAS, said she registered to vote in Champaign because someone was standing outside her dorm registering people so she just did it. College Democrats registered 2,500 voters during the fall "I don't think they purposely don't register," Mansukhani said. "But as the young generation, I think it's important to get our voice heard and not give in to laziness."

Barack Obama and John McCain were the respective winners in Illinois on Super Tuesday. "Whoever ends up winning the republican primary, we will be supporting fully and getting out on campus to try to get him elected," Solomon said. With so many important issues affecting young voters and the American people as a whole, the 2008 election was the first for many Illinois voters, but it was also one of the most important.

"I would say it is more important than other years. A lot of students on campus have been frustrated in the past few years," Solomon said. Dawson agreed. "If it's your first election, it's really exciting because you get to choose who you want to represent you. Everyone has a choice," she said.

story by melissa silverberg

photos by kristin o'brien

“I go to my friend’s
apartment and watch TV

{ on *their* couch so *I* can get it
dirty and I **don’t** have
to clean it up. ”

» dehming tang, sophomore in the college of engineering

Nancy Parman
senior in LAS takes
a breather in one
of the comfiest
chairs on campus
in the Relaxation
Room, located in the
basement of the Illini
Union. The room was
a free place where
students went to
relax by watching a
20-minute guided
imagery video.



Catherine Byrne
freshman in the
college of business,
listens to music and
reads on one of the
hundreds of places to
sit in the Illini Union.
Many students lis-
tened to music, did a
crossword puzzle, or
read between classes
to help relieve stress
and make their days a
little more relaxing.

trying to relax

students reach for ways to relieve stress



Stu Greenlee, senior in economics, listens to music and surfs the net on his couch before he hits the hay. Many students take some time to relax and unwind before they go to sleep and start a new, stressful day.

Between classes, sports teams, clubs, part-time jobs and volunteer work, students often find that they have very little free time. Fortunately, the University provides many opportunities for students to relieve stress and relax on campus.

The Oasis is a health center located in the basement of the Illini Union that offers health resources, a relaxation room, exercise facilities, and massage therapy to students and faculty. Julianne Fisette, senior in the college of business, visited Oasis for a session in the relaxation room, where students sit in soft lounge chairs and experience an audio-visual presentation and muscle relaxation exercises. Fisette said most of her stress on campus comes from classes, so the relaxation room was a great way to take a break from studying. "It made me forget about schoolwork for awhile and it also helps your body to physically relax," Fisette said.

Many other students chose to relieve stress by relaxing at home or spending time with friends. Dehming Tang, sophomore in the college of engineering, said that he enjoys relaxing at friends because he doesn't have to worry about keeping the place clean. "I go to my friend's apartment and watch TV on their couch so I can get it dirty, and I don't have to clean it up," Tang said.

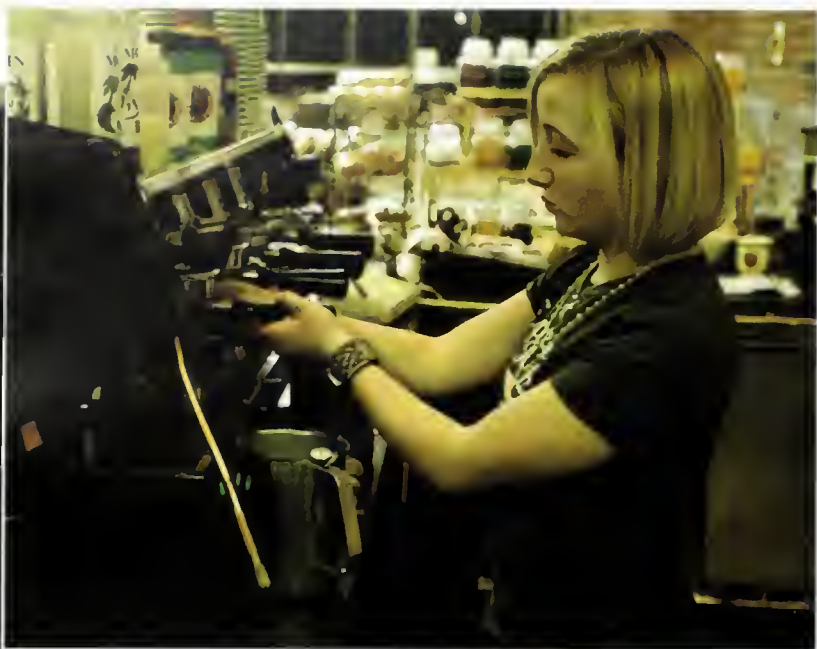
Many students on campus also exercised to relieve stress. "I'll go for a run with my brother or go to CRCE and play soccer in the indoor arena – just anything to get my mind off schoolwork for awhile and use my body at the same time," said Fogle, a junior in agricultural, consumer, and environmental sciences (ACES).

Suzette DePersio, junior in ACES, is another student who used exercise as a way to relieve stress. DePersio was a member of the University's horseback riding team and said that the stables provided a calm, quiet environment where she can easily relax. "It's away from campus. It's out in the country, just in the middle of nowhere. So, there's nothing really noisy out there," DePersio said. "You can just relax and not think about schoolwork while you're out there."

DePersio also said belonging to a club was important because it interrupts the routine of a stressful schedule. "It's just good to have some sort of activity that you enjoy doing, other than just focusing on schoolwork all the time," DePersio said. "I mean, your schedule is the same everyday so if you don't have something to break it up, all you're going to be doing is work."

PHOTOGRAPH BY COURTNEY COPPERMOLL

STYLING BY KRISTIN O'BRIEN



Alison Rigel
sophomore in LAS,
pulls shots for
a large, double-shot
soy, sugar-free,
caramel, vanilla
latte with whip.
Students can relied
on knowledgeable
baristas to make any
drink to order at most
of the local coffee
establishments
on campus.

Barista Alison Rigel,
sophomore in
LAS, lets
a customer smell the
tea she's interested
in. Students utilize
campus coffee shops
for both a caffeine
pick-me-up and for
a relaxing
chamomile tea.



“ I could go through
a whole day without **coffee,**
but I'd really rather **not.** ” }

» emily carlson, undecided freshman

the caffeine hype

the buzz about staying awake

It's hard to tell whose lives are more jam packed and fast paced: the five or six busy workers behind the counter at Espresso Royale or the line of anxious and jittery customers waiting for their latest caffeine fix of the day. Students at Illinois juggled clubs, classes, homework, friends, and their social lives, yet through it all, many Illini keep one hand open to hold onto their precious coffee cups.

Whether it's one of Espresso Royale's many campus locations, Moonstruck, or Starbucks, the coffeehouses in Champaign-Urbana are always buzzing. While caffeine, whether in soda, coffee, energy drinks, or even caffeine pills, can keep students awake and allow them to get work done, there are also some negative side effects. According to the McKinley Health Center, caffeine is a stimulant and can be habit-forming for frequent users. While using caffeine in moderation may not be terribly harmful, sticking to moderation may be the most difficult part for many students.

Elizabeth Berry was a sophomore majoring in molecular and cellular biology in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS) and normally took 17-18 hours of class per semester, and held a part time job. Berry said she normally drank five to six cups of coffee a day from her campus favorite, Espresso Royale. She admitted she felt addicted to the caffeine, and that it helped her feel more awake, more productive, and even happier. "It's an expensive habit, but hopefully not as bad as smoking or something more dangerous," Berry said.

Emily Carlson, freshman still undecided about her major, worked at Starbucks on campus. "People come in and know what they want. If you get it wrong they get really angry, especially in the morning before they've had their first cup," said Carlson. She said she drinks multiple cups of coffee a day but her favorite is an the iced caramel macchiato. She added, "I could go through a whole day without coffee, but I'd really rather not."

It's not just coffee that people are addicted to, but basically anything with caffeine. Julie Johann, a freshman in LAS, admitted to drinking at least three diet cokes every day. "If I had to go a day without caffeine, I would probably have to take a lot of naps," said Johann. "It really gets me going in the morning."

Opinions vary on whether caffeine is an addiction or if it's just a habit people choose not to break. However, "I get headaches if I don't get enough caffeine," said Carlson. Headaches, feeling tired, and other such symptoms of withdrawal are why many choose not to give up their caffeine addiction and why many see nothing wrong with downing so many cans of soda, energy drinks, or coffee creations in one day. Whether it's just to get through the day or for the taste, Illinois students can't get their caffeine fast enough and often can't get enough of the somewhat dangerous but addicting drinks.

photo by melissa silverberg

photo by kristin o'brien

DIVERSITY IN THE WORKS

numbers of international students on the rise

4,151 existing international students, plus 1,534 new international students, plus a slew of cultural clubs and international coffeehouses plus a whole lot of campus love equals a 2.8 percent increase over last year's total enrollment of international students from 123 different countries, according to the International Student and Scholar Services at the University. There are a total of 5,685 international students currently enrolled at the University. What a mouthful.

Illinois prides itself on being ranked fourth in the nation for the number of enrolled international students. Many International students who chose to come to the University found that studying in the states give them opportunities that they might not otherwise have in their respective countries.

"It is very free here. We get a better education and still have plenty of time for hobbies," said Yuge Bi, an undecided sophomore planning on possibly pursuing actuarial science. "In China, public universities don't give students time for anything else but study."

Many clubs on campus accommodate the academic, social, and religious needs of international students. The Chinese Entrepreneur and Professional Club, Korean Students Association, Asian-American Association, and African Students Organization provide opportunities for networking, mentorship, and career personnel, giving both international and local students a way to interact with each other.

You-Jia (Corey) Kuo, a current sophomore, came from Taiwan to study civil engineering. She said, "You have more time to do things you want here. In Taiwan, people don't have a lot of time to do clubs."

Organizations such as the International Friendship Link, International Illini, International Student Connections, and International Business Society help international students find peers with similar interests in order to ease their transition to the University. The Cos-

mopolitan Club and Intercontinental Cultural Society on campus promote diversity and cultural awareness for students on campus.

These clubs allow international students to develop social resources and leadership skills to make their time at the University fulfilling and worthwhile. But most importantly, they help destroy the typical stereotypes usually attributed to international students.

"People here say, 'wow, you don't have any accents,' like they think I should not know any English. It's pretty awkward sometimes," said freshman Kenneth Zeng, of the "international student" stereotypes on campus. "It's difficult to explain where I'm from, but when I tell people I'm from China, people assume I'm not able to speak English." Zeng was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, moved to Chicago, and then to Shanghai. After living the majority of his adolescence in China, Zeng is now a freshman in the college of business at the University.

"International students face a lot of stereotypes...for example, some people think we're really smart and don't party," said Sameeraj Ilapavqluri, a sophomore from India studying Electrical and Computer Engineering.

International students generally enjoy their time studying at the University. Many agree that an education in the United States opens a lot of doors.

"In the United States, we are free to show our opinions," Bi said. "We can select our own classes here. Here, universities give students a lot of leeway for creative ideas."

"To come over to the United States meant more opportunities, more of an all-around college experience, more international exposure," said Ilapavqluri.

Danielle Smits, junior in LAS, and Eriko Ishitsuka, Alumni and community member work the winter indoor Quad Day. The University has many RSOs to help international students acclimate to a different culture and make new connections.



Wilbur Chang, junior in Eng, takes an interest in Kung Fu as a member in the Illini Kung Fu Club. Many international students teach others about their culture through registered student organizations.

“To come to the United States meant more opportunities,”

» sameeraj Ilapavgluri,
sophomore in electrical and computer engineering



A long line of people are queuing up in front of Murphy's pub for the celebration of the unofficial St. Patrick's day. Green Street pubs and bars were crowded by many customers waiting to get a

“Unofficial

will probably never

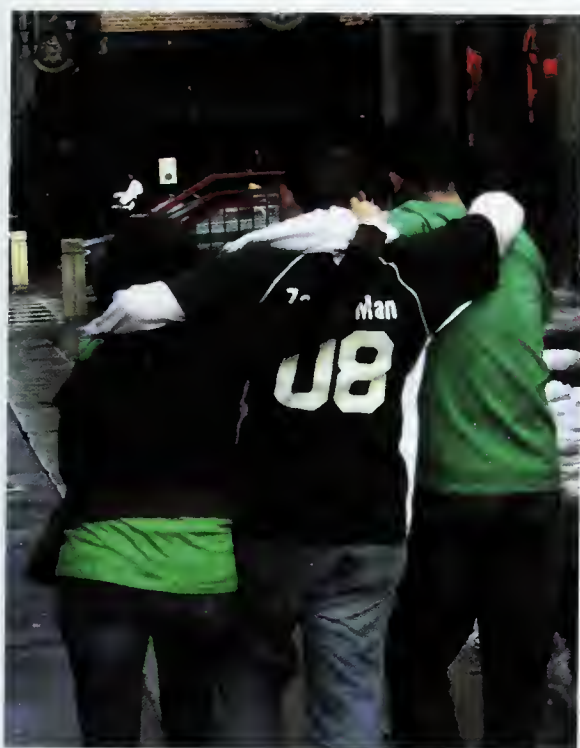
BE TOTALLY STOPPED.

We are just trying to make it safe.”

» mayor gerald schweighthart

a very green leap year

students celebrate unofficial st. patrick's day, despite pressure to end the event



Three students were seen drunk in the middle of the street during midday Unofficial. Unofficial is a day of concern by the university authorities.

John Mlinarcik, already having drunk a couple Keystones, ventured more than a mile to a friend's house in order for the "real" drinking to begin at 9:15 a.m. This is the holiday known to students as Unofficial St. Patrick's Day. Mlinarcik, a 21-year-old accounting major, before beginning his walk filled with high-fives and shouts of encouragement from fellow drinkers, woke up late, for Unofficial standards, at 8:30 a.m. to begin his day.

Marty Norris, a 20-year-old recreation, sports, and tourism major, woke up at 10 a.m. after 9 hours of sleep. Norris chose not to drink on Unofficial or any day of the year. He left his apartment around noon and was met with jeers from crowds for not wearing green. "There was no chance I was ever setting foot outside at night to attempt to talk to my friends when I knew they would barely be able to speak along with the rest of campus," Norris said. Norris' Unofficial ended at 2 p.m. when he came back to his apartment to relax and watch TV.

John Mlinarcik and Marty Norris are two students at the University who look at Unofficial in a very different way. This is the danger that Champaign police and government, along with the University, are trying to work together to reduce. A danger that took the life of a University alumna two years ago.

On Feb. 20, 2007 the Champaign City Council approved an ordinance that would expand Mayor Gerald Schweighart's emergency order powers. This means that the mayor, who also acts as the liquor commissioner, has the authority to reduce the sale of alcohol.

Schweighart prohibited the sale of beer in pitchers and any undiluted shot in bars. Drinks were required to be sold in plastic cups instead of glass bottles. People checking IDs at bar entrances had to be at least 21 years old. Residences could only purchase one keg at a time. Most importantly, bars were restricted from opening before 11 a.m. Schweighart said he was not trying to forbid drinking, but attempting to control it.

"When Kams opened, there were about six people in there," Friedlein said. There were 33 walk-in, alcohol-related patients to Provena Hospital, along with 57 medical calls, 30 of which required an ambulance, Friedlein said. Carle Foundation Hospital received only a couple alcohol-related patients on Unofficial, said Allison McLaughlin, Carle's public relations specialist.

"I was in bed by 8:30 p.m. and ignored my alarm at 11 p.m.," Mlinarcik said. "Unofficial is really fun in the morning, but by the end of the night, people are a bunch of zombies and that spells trouble." "Unofficial can be extremely frightening, but it is good to see that things have become safer," Norris said.

And while these students exhibit different ways of celebrating Unofficial, both share the same concerns when it comes to the safety of themselves and their peers.

by Chris Murray
photo by Dennis Sudkamp

STRENGTH FROM TERROR

students at northern illinois university stand together to mourn their loss
after shooter takes five lives

This year on Valentine's Day, girls passed up primping for dinner dates with their sweethearts and boys were a few minutes late picking up their girlfriends for a movie. Instead of exchanging kisses and words of endearment, couples, friends, and classmates all over campus gave out Kleenex boxes and hugs of condolences for the 5 students killed at Northern Illinois University, only 170 short miles away. Students gathered around TVs and refreshed internet news reports at rapid speed once the news let lose that a grad student at our university had entered Cole Hall at NIU and opened fired on the lecture hall killing 5, injuring 15, and then taking his own life.

Maribeth Smerz, a sophomore in the college of liberal arts and science (LAS), was into a panic as soon as she heard about the tragedy. "I was very nervous when I first heard about everything. My older brother, who is one of the most important people in my life, goes to school there," said Smerz. "Thoughts about my brother and his girlfriend and all my friends who go there ran through my head and I was very scared to hear the results."

Like Smerz, many students have friends or family members who attend NIU so the shooting hit close to home. Caitlin Humrickhouse, a sophomore in LAS, who lost a friend that day because he "sacrificed his body so the shooter would not hit his girlfriend", said that a lot of her friends knew people who were shot or killed. "It's so scary how so many people were affected. I think of sitting in a

lecture hall like Lincoln or Altgeld and think how easily it could happen to us here if it could happen to them."

The shooting at NIU left our campus in shock and a state of grief. Although words could not express the support and sadness we felt for the victims, on February 18, students and faculty gathered on the quad for a vigil and moment of silence. "I think it was good that after the shooting we came together as a campus to support NIU," said Smerz. Other reactions that administrators took in order to comfort, console, and make sure students felt protected was to enforce the emergency text messaging system and make a bigger deal about campus security. Christine Ziegenfuss, a junior in the college of LAS, said she was in a class with Steven Kazmierczak, the 27 year old graduate student who will forever be remembered as the 'NIU shooter'. "We had a social work grad class together. I honestly never would have pegged him to be a violent person," said Ziegenfuss. "He was just another guy in my class."

As time goes on, and students graduate and other's begin their college adventure, our university will always remember the tragedy at NIU. The day celebrated by roses and chocolate hearts will always be tainted with the memory of those who lost their lives on February 14, 2008 in Cole Hall at Northern Illinois University.

jesse muller

DPH, ST



Lezlie Tennant, a resident nurse at Kishwaukee Community hospital, which took many of the injured students after Thursday's shooting signs the memorial wall Friday night, Feb. 15, 2008. 'It's just very sad,' said Tennant.



An engineering student demonstrates his invention on the engineering campus during EOH. Students held many splendid demonstrations throughout the open house.

“ I hope
 { the visitors learned
 some interesting things
 and were able to **see the excitement**
 of being an engineer at U of I.”

» Ian Wisner, sophomore in physics

open house on campus

eah engineers good time for visitors



A young visitor learns a little about circuits through a hands-on exercise. Many exhibits were meant to be touched and used, helping visitors understand by doing.

Music was playing loudly on Engineering Quad, as families, students and community members were welcomed to Engineering Open House (EOH) 2008. At EOH, the scientific demonstrations, design projects and hands on activities attracted guests of all ages.

This two-day event familiarized people with new technology from professors, students, and corporate sponsors. With more than 250 volunteers, 200 exhibits and at least 5,600 people in attendance, EOH is one of the University's biggest crowd pullers.

"The best part about the EOH is that we work with every facet of the University – Facilities and Services, Safety, Administration, Students – the entire campus," said Meagan Simantz, student director of EOH.

Set up in various buildings on the Engineering Quad were demonstrations – some to show the amount of drag on a golf ball, others to show how concrete can be crushed – and research projects – like the Illini Space Jet, a scaled model of a theoretical mission. "EOH gave me an incredible exposure to applications of engineering that I may not come across within a class room," said Raghav Chadha, junior in engineering.

Ian Wisher, sophomore in physics, helped build a "bubbles room." It was a spectacular hit with children because of a setup that enclosed them in a bubble. Other popular exhibits were a penny-crushing machine that engraved the University's 'I' on the metal, and a sand-casting exhibit that poured hot aluminum over audience-prepared sand casts to make medallions with "EOH," "MECH SE," and "U of I" written on them. "Name engravings on poker chips at the optics laboratory were so popular that there were winding lines of people for it," Zhao said.

With many students, families and community members coming to campus and participating in EOH, the event was a success. "I think the visitors had fun, hopefully learned some interesting things and were able to see the excitement of being an engineer at U of I," Wisher said.

PHOTO: JAYSON SINGH
PHOTO: ROSEANNE GORTON



The Horticulture show in the Stock Pavilion, "Celebrating Horticulture for Every Holiday," on April 12, drew many of the mom's that were visiting for Mom's Weekend. Members of the Horticulture Club were given a holiday and had to create their own display.

" I think
it's a very
special time
to be with your student
and have time set aside to
{ *take a break* from your studies
and spend time with your
family "

» nan rutledge, president of the mom's association

flowers, crafts, and a great night out

moms spend a weekend with students

Shopping at the craft fair, eating a dinner away from the dorm cafeteria, and dancing on the poles at Joe's Brewery: all of these are activities that mothers and students could participate in during Mom's Weekend 2008.

Mom's Weekend is officially hosted by the Mom's Association, which was formed in 1923, and the celebratory mother student weekend started soon afterward, said Nan Rutledge, president of the Mom's Association. This year it was the second weekend of April.

"There is always a list for parents to pick and choose what will be available on Mom's Weekend," Rutledge said. This year activities included a kick-off dinner and breakfast Saturday morning, craft fair at the Union, and a play at Assembly Hall.

Aside from the official activities, there is also the added bonus of spending time with mom, which usually does not happen during the school year. "It is not just for moms and students," Rutledge said. "It can also be a weekend about family."

Some students like to make the most of the weekend like Kathryn Bachusz, freshman in liberal arts and sciences. She and her mother went out to dinner, went shopping, took a tour of campus, went to the craft fair, and went out to the bars at night. "It was great, my mom paid," Bachusz said. "It was just really good to see my mom, and I know she had fun."

One of the most difficult problems with Mom's Weekend is finding a place to stay and a restaurant to have dinner at with so many extra people on campus throughout the weekend. Hotels are booked a year in advance and dinner reservations are nowhere to be found at the last minute. Bachusz said her mother had a very hard time finding a hotel, but was eventually able to find one the week before due to a cancellation.

"Next year we will be planning ahead and making reservations to eat at Biaggis," she said. Some students choose not to have their mothers come to campus. Ryan Laurenti, freshman in business, did not tell his mom about the weekend.

"I just didn't think there would be fun things for mom and I to go do. I didn't want to take my mom to the bars," Laurenti said. "But she was really upset when she found out it was Mom's Weekend, and I didn't tell her." His mother came to visit campus the next weekend to make up for the loss.

No matter how students choose to spend their Mom's Weekend, it's important to spend time appreciating your family and taking in all the opportunities the University has to offer. "I think it's a very special time to be with your student and have time set aside to take a break from studies and spend time with your family," Rutledge said.



Yuri Dominguez, a sophomore in Horticulture and also a member of the Horticulture Club, talks with her family about the different plants in her Mardi Gras-themed display in the Stock Pavilion on April 12. The show itself was titled "Celebrating Horticulture with Every Holiday."

written by melissa silverberg
photos by allison bulow

BLEEDING ORANGE AND BLUE

Illini pride superfans support their teams through thick and thin

Orange and blue clad fans stomp over one another while screaming as loud as they can in an almost competing chant of who can scream "I-L-L" or "I-N-I" louder. Students at Illinois are not just students, they are not just members of clubs, and they are not just college kids, they are Illini. To be a fan of the Illini is not just expected of students, but understood as a part of life.

In the stands at a football game, a tennis match, a soccer competition, or any event of the other 16 sporting teams, fans can be found. Rachel Blonski was not only one of those fans, but also the president of the official Illinois fan club, Illini Pride. Blonski said she didn't really understand the big deal about being a fan until she was a student at Illinois.

"You really get the feel for Illinois spirit as soon as you step foot on campus," said Blonski, a junior in college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS).

Blonski has endured nearly freezing temperatures while waiting to get into the stands of a basketball game as a member of the Orange Krush cheering section. Illini Pride boasts about 3,200 members, which makes it the largest club on campus. The club is also unique because it is home to some of Illinois' biggest and sometimes craziest fans.

Speaking of crazy, Eric Benz, the vice president in charge of Orange Krush, once waited outside in a tent for 46 hours to get into an Illinois basketball game. It's not just about school spirit but the loyalty that Illinois students feel toward their school that makes Illini 'super fans' different.

"We are more innovative. It's easy to just show up to a game, clap your hands and yell, but we are more than that," said Benz, a senior in LAS.

Students are not just basketball fans or football fans, they are Illinois fans and can be found at any sporting event including gymnastics, softball and cross country meets.

However, this year fans, athletes and students experienced one distinct change, the removal of Chief Illiniwek as the school mascot. Although many students have differing opinions about the Chief, the love for the Illini has not diminished.

"Are you going to stop being a fan because of it? No," said Cody Bornsheuer, a senior in LAS and the vice president in charge of Block I. "We are all still fighting Illini," Bornsheuer said.

Being an Illini is not something people forget easily. Besides undergraduate students filling the stands at sporting events there are also hundreds of alumni come back to cheer on the current team, support their teams and show they are still connected to Illinois.

"It's like being part of a family, a culture, a lifestyle," Benz said. "People don't forget where they came from."

No matter what sport, year in school or how long ago graduation was, Illini super fans will be in attendance. For the Illinois super fans, it's not just a university; It's a way of life.

*By Jeffery J. Smith
and Jeffery J. Smith*

Illinois alumnus
Brian Schneider rests
during the alumni
tailgate party before
the Rose Bowl in
Pasadena, Calif., on
Jan. 1, 2008. Super
Illini fans traveled to
cheer on the team.



Illinois fans cheer
for the TV cameras
during the Rose Bowl
against USC in
Pasadena, Calif., on
Jan. 1, 2008. Illinois
lost, 49-17.



{ "It's like being
part of a
family, a culture, a lifestyle."

» eric benz, vice president, orange crush



academics



Brilliant scientists, enlightened artists, decorated writers, and even the bravest of soldiers will walk across the stage each May. But we did not start out brilliant, brave, or enlightened. We were merely freshmen, eager to set out on a path that would lead us there.



The office of admissions and records is located on west Illinois street.

getting in

as the admissions process changes,
students alter their methods for gaining acceptance

The University is ranked thirty-eighth in the nation and with top programs in engineering, accountancy, and physics, the University of Illinois is often considered one of the choice colleges for future freshman. However, the University is extremely selective of its incoming applicants and has been increasing the difficulty of the process in recent years. To extend admission to a prospective student, the office of admissions must focus on the entire package - GPA, ACT score, essays, extracurricular activities, awards and honors and letters of recommendation.

"I think that if you are deficient in one area, a strength in another will probably still help you," said Ellen Bogue, freshman in applied health sciences. Admission to prestigious colleges has become more difficult in recent years. However, just because a person doesn't have the highest credentials for a specific college within the University doesn't mean there aren't other alternatives available to obtain an acceptance letter.

"The University is a good college, so if you're going to want to go here, you can play the system," said David Bennett, undecided freshman in liberal arts and sciences. While it is a common thought that an individual's ACT score is the most important component to an application, the range of scores accepted is actually quite diverse. From the freshman class of 2011, 50 percent of students had an ACT score ranging between 27 and 31.

The application process included two, 300-word essays, in which applicants were encouraged to present as much of their personality and achievements as possible. "What I wrote about was the struggles that I went through, like my mom passing away and all I've done all through high school," said Beatrice Tapia, freshman in LAS.

However, some students might feel they need to offer something more. "I think you have to do something, or have to show a trait that distinguishes them from every other person," said Bennett. The University may be prestigious, but it is not an impenetrable fortress. However, as applicants become more competitive, the standards for admissions may continue to increase in difficulty.

— Ellen Bogue, freshman in applied health sciences
— David Bennett, undecided freshman in liberal arts and sciences



Prospective students leave the admissions building after meeting with admissions counselors during a tour of the University. Current students also frequent the building, as the office works with every student's records, transcripts, and admissions information throughout their attendance.

our rich past

the history of our university runs deep

It's Monday morning, and the stigma that accompanies this day is written on everyone's face. Another week begins, and students, teachers and administrators flood the Quad, each hurrying – or dawdling – to get to his or her respective class, job or rest area. Hands grip venti vanilla lattes, ears cradle iPod headphones, eyes stare tiredly at the ground, avoiding eye contact and the potential of being forced into conversation this early on a Monday. Feet stroll past Gregory Hall, Lincoln Hall and the English building without anyone really giving these structures a second thought. This image is all too familiar, but how much do University students and faculty actually know about the campus where they walk, talk, eat, sleep, learn and live?

Take Gregory Hall, for instance. An old, brick building named after some dead, white guy, one may presume. Well, yes. But there's more history behind it than that. John Milton Gregory founded the University in 1867, after the Morrill Act of 1862 granted a portion of public land in Urbana on which to build a public state university focused on agriculture and mechanical arts. Then named Illinois Industrial University, the school had only six departments, two faculty members and a handful of students.

140 years, 270 buildings and 4,000 classes later, the University is now home to over 45,000 students and faculty from all 50 states and over 100 nations. Since its gray Gregory days, the University has done nothing but grow, and today, U.S. News & World Report ranks it among the top universities in the nation, with many of its undergraduate programs ranking in the top 10, including agricultural and civil engineering at No. one. These numbers reflect how academics and research are at the heart of the University's mission. As set by Chancellor Richard Herman, the mission is to "transform lives and serve society by educating, creating knowledge and putting knowledge to work on a large scale and with excellence."

This scholastic focus is not lost to the students. Taylor Smith, senior in engineering, left his hometown of Flower Mound, Texas, to take advantage of the University's top program. "I read in one of my college books that the U of I was one of the top-ranked schools in engineering, so I decided to apply," Smith said. "I felt like I'd fit in, and this was the right college for me. After coming here, it was better than I expected."

Smith feels that the University lives up to its prestigious reputation. "Some of the students I know are really involved in academics and research, and there are a lot of famous alumni whose bodies of work have benefited society," Smith said. "The academics here are harder than what I expected, and the competition in class is definitely up there."

The future of the University is aimed toward sustaining this academically competitive edge. Chancellor Herman's vision is "to become the pre-eminent research institute in the nation," and he has developed "a set of values aimed toward creating an educational environment that influences students to become leaders, teachers and researchers who transform the world," said Robin Kaler, assistant chancellor for public affairs.

This mentality is nothing new for the University, which has always focused on research and scholarship since Gregory. "One of the top values that drives the vision is the land-grant tradition," Kaler said. "Though we're certainly reinventing it for the 21st century." The University has come a long way since its Illinois Industrial days, thanks to generations of commitment to establishing an intellectual reputation – an image that will last throughout the coming years.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
Urbana, Illinois

just how much do you know about illinois?

Did you know the University has a mission statement?

Yes.

What do you think it says?

I would guess something to do with education.

» *esther thomas, freshman in LAS*

What does the University's mission statement say?

It focuses on the education of students
and having them become global
community members.

What do you know about the University's history?

It was founded in 1867 and was
originally agricultural.

» *chris cosat, history advisor*

Did you know the University has a mission statement?

Yes.

Do you know who the buildings on the Quad are
named after?

I'm guessing Abraham Lincoln for
Lincoln Hall and Roger Adams for
Roger Adams Lab.

» *tj stear, freshman in LAS*



Altgeld Hall is
located on the
quad, off Wright
and John streets.



Jared Johnson, senior in engineering, relaxes in front of the alma mater. Jared is a transfer student from Boston University who said the move was the best decision he has made for his career chances.

transferring to illinois

the choice to change schools is difficult,
but transfer students say it was a good one

It is difficult to find a transfer student on campus who is not happy with their decision. Melissa Shields, a student who transferred from Colorado State University (CSU), said, "I like U of I. I have met some of the best people ever here."

Lauren Ring, senior in the college of business, said she had no regrets. "My classes have been challenging; but once you get acclimated, it's great." Shields and Ring are co-presidents of the transfer mentors program, a new registered student organization (RSO) on campus that brings together transfer students around campus.

The University itself has not been as successful in promoting its own transfer program, however. Many transfer students find that the most frustrating parts of transferring include transferring credits from previous institutions and blending in with other students in the new environment. Some feel the transfer mentors program improves at least the latter.

Allison Getty, founder of the transfer mentors program, said that 17 of her credit hours did not transfer to the University. She is now a graduate student in political science. Shields recalled the troubling experience of petitioning for transfer credit for her biology credits from CSU. This made for a unique situation, since both CSU and Illinois teach biology out of the same textbook.

The most crucial key to being accepted as a transfer student is academic excellence, said Stacey Kostell, director of undergraduate admissions. Leadership and internship positions also play roles in boosting an applicant's chances at admissions, although the University does not conduct interviews to get to know applicants. Sixty hours of coursework from a previous institution are required for admission and transfer students have the last pick of classes during registration. Even with so many technicalities against prospective transfer students however, they are still personally driven to apply, partly because of "a good reputation and a new environment," said Megan Churilla, a junior in animal sciences.

Improvements to the University's transfer orientation program may be underway, thanks to the one-million dollar Lumina grant the University received. Some hope the grant will help boost the University's image in regards to its transfer program, as well as allow transfer students a smoother transition when changing colleges. In the meantime, the transfer mentors program has picked up the slack.

by Melissa Alm
photo by Christine Eichen

planning for success

urban planning majors learn to build cities that work

Urban and regional planning has been available as a major at the University since the year 1965, yet many students have no idea what it is or that it exists. As one of seven departments within the college of fine and applied arts, urban and regional planning is a multi-faceted major in which students learn how to design and organize urban areas and communities.

The University originally established urban and regional planning as a concentration within the department of landscape architecture in 1920. Then, continued population growth after World War II resulted in the development of suburbs, which required the expansion of roadways, plumbing and power grids, among other things. The University eventually responded to this growing demand for urban planners by creating the urban and regional planning department in 1965.

Planning requires students to study several different subject areas, including geology, geography, sociology, political science and ecology, all in connection with urban planning.

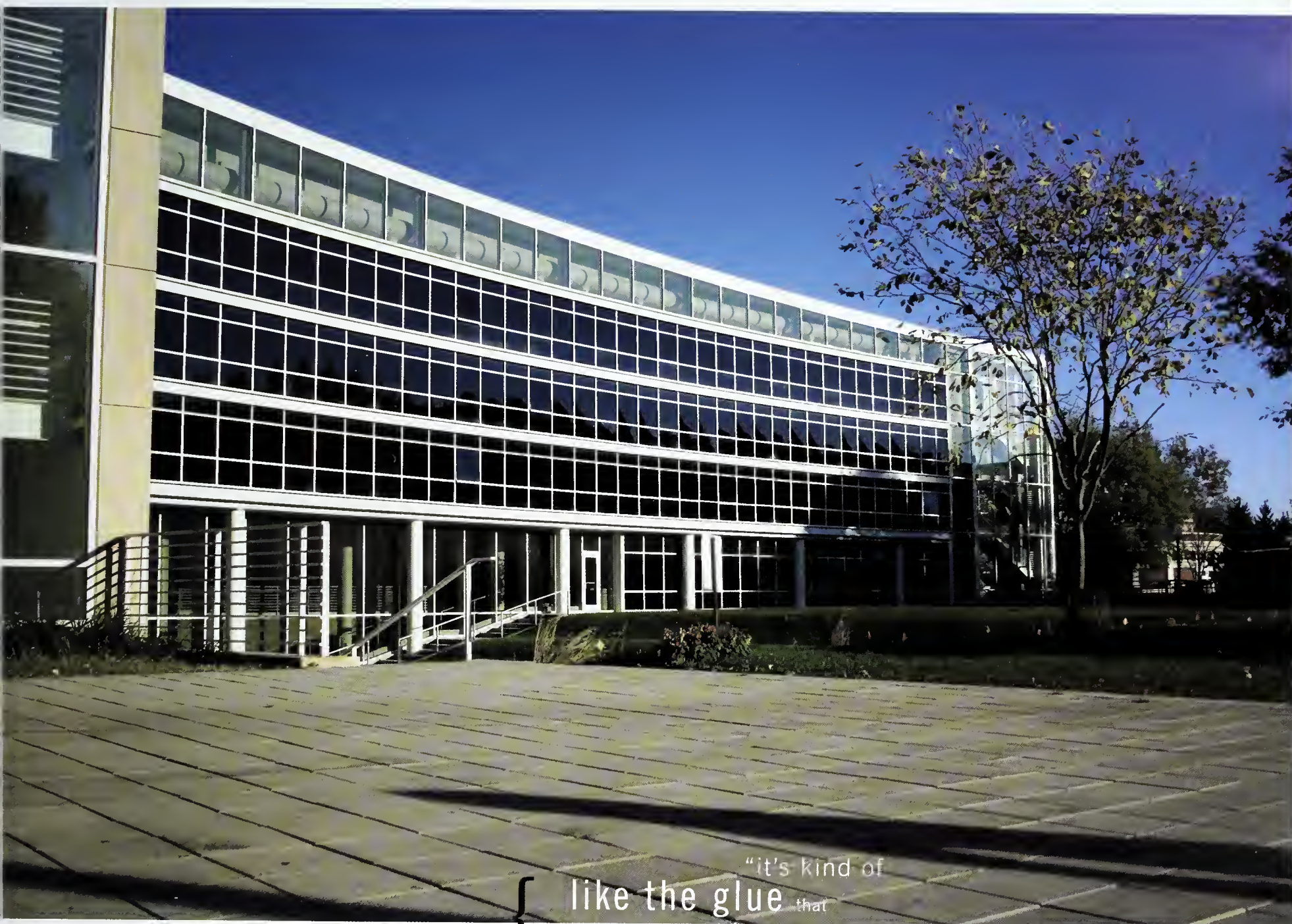
"I like the freedom it gives you to get your foot into a lot of different doors and just see what's going on," said Kevin Stewart, junior in FAA. A variety of concentrations has been added to the major, including community development, social justice, environmental planning, economic development and information technology.

Students who earn a bachelor's degree in urban and regional planning may find jobs with the government, private companies or non-profit organizations. Joanna Magdaleno, sophomore in FAA, hopes to work for a village municipal center in the area of community development.

"I became more interested in the overall development of cities and how the land could be better used to provide for the cities than the specific designs of one building or place," she said. Magdaleno said that she really enjoyed the small class sizes in the major and the fact that students start taking planning classes in their first semester.

Edward Feser, professor and interim head of urban and regional planning, believed that a planning degree may be a good choice for students interested in a practice-oriented field. "You can't really learn how to plan in the local community or deal with urban issues, infrastructure issues or environmental issues unless you're actually working in the field," he said.

urban planning
major



{ like the glue ^{“it’s kind of} that
fills in the gaps
between a lot ^{of other}
professions.”

Temple Hoyne Buell Hall
is located on Tatt Drive.

» kevin stewart, junior in FAA

TEACHING ASSISTANTS ON THE RISE

as class structures changes with time, students work to adjust

Teaching Assistants (TA) appear to be taking over class instruction, though some of them are only undergraduate students themselves. A student's performance in a class may depend upon who leads his or her discussion sections. TA's can make or break a student's grade, but the student has little control in choosing his or her TA.

Some departments on campus stress a strong knowledge base of subject material rather than the actual teaching ability of an individual when selecting TA's. Those who have had a background in tutoring find teaching a class is another story.

Kimberly Tan, a TA for chemistry 101, said, "TA-ing is a job that entails more than just tutoring a student one-on-one. You're not just someone there to help them with their chemistry – they see you as their teacher." Tan is a second-year University student with junior standing, currently majoring in molecular and cellular biology.

Becoming a TA gives students the benefits of paid tuition at the University and experience on job résumés. It is no wonder that the idea appeals even to those who are technically not qualified to teach or to those that lack the ability to deal with the variety of personalities found in the classroom environment.

"I do feel that all TAs are qualified in the aspect that they know how to solve the problems; if they were to be taking the course as a student, they would 'A plus' everything. So there's no denying that they know the material," Tan said. "TA's are not chosen by their teaching ability, but rather by just their knowledge of the subject matter."

The University requires a two-day crash-course workshop for first-time TAs before classes begin. "But there doesn't seem to be much of a screening process in terms of how they can actually teach," Tan said.

"As a graduate student, when you're given an award to be a teaching assistant, you're given this responsibility to teach when very often you have no experience," said Jessica Shelvik, a graduate student pursuing a doctorate in musicology with a specialization in 19th century Russian music. "I was scared to teach because I never had to really teach before."

Eventually, TA's get more comfortable with the teaching environment. They learn many lessons during the course of their experience. Tan said that by being a teaching assistant, she gained a better appreciation for her own TA's.

"My students have actually taught me how to be a better student and being a student helps me be a better TA," Tan said.

"What surprises me is my relationship with the students; how much fun we end up having and that there are times we get feedback from the students that is really rewarding to the TA," Shelvik said.

According to Shelvik however, there seems to be a distance that students try to keep from their TA's or professors. But in the end, students need to realize that it is helpful to develop genuine relationships with their teachers.

Photo: Melissa C. [unclear]
Photo: [unclear] Tan [unclear]



Raymond Kongwa, T.A. for JOUR 200, goes over rough drafts with sophomore Charles Johnson. Teaching assistants spend a portion of time helping students during office hours.



Sophomore Michael Thies, gains a better understanding of music in Music 107. The class is taught by teaching assistants who are graduate students themselves.

*"my students
have actually*

taught me."

» kimberly tan, chemistry 101 t.a.

Chris Williams, a freshman in the college of business, studies for one of his midterms. Williams is one of the many freshmen targeted by programs such as SESI.



a business plan for success

SESI prepares business majors for the future

The college of business hosted the Social Entrepreneurship Summer Institute (SESI) program that connects organizations in the community with University students. The program ran from June 8 to June 23 and allowed student interns to work for one of ten participating community organizations to "learn about societal issues and civic engagement and to serve the community," according to the SESI Web site.

Student intern Christina Fertl, sophomore in accounting, worked with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) as part of the SESI program. "I tried to make their organization better by assessing their financial information, and what would help their organization grow," Fertl said.

Some activities included creating a business, or even pairing up with the Boys and Girls Club to sell produce. Students were focused on "how we could bring in more students to make it a bigger organization," Fertl said.

At the YWCA, Fertl worked on creating a plan to attract registered student organizations (RSO) to their main event, 'Race Against Racism,' to try and make it an annual event where the entire campus participates.

"It was a lot of fun," Fertl said. "It was beneficial to the students to understand non-profits and small business organizations."

"SESI is a great way to get experience outside of the classroom, especially since it's hard for the younger students to get internships," said Collette Niland, Director of SESI.

Students do not get paid for participating, but eventually, the College of Business hopes to offer SESI for academic credit, according to Niland. "They learn about different aspects, from non-conventional forms of advertising to endowment," Niland said. "We're trying to instill how to do business with a social conscious and teach them about societal problems and civil engagement."

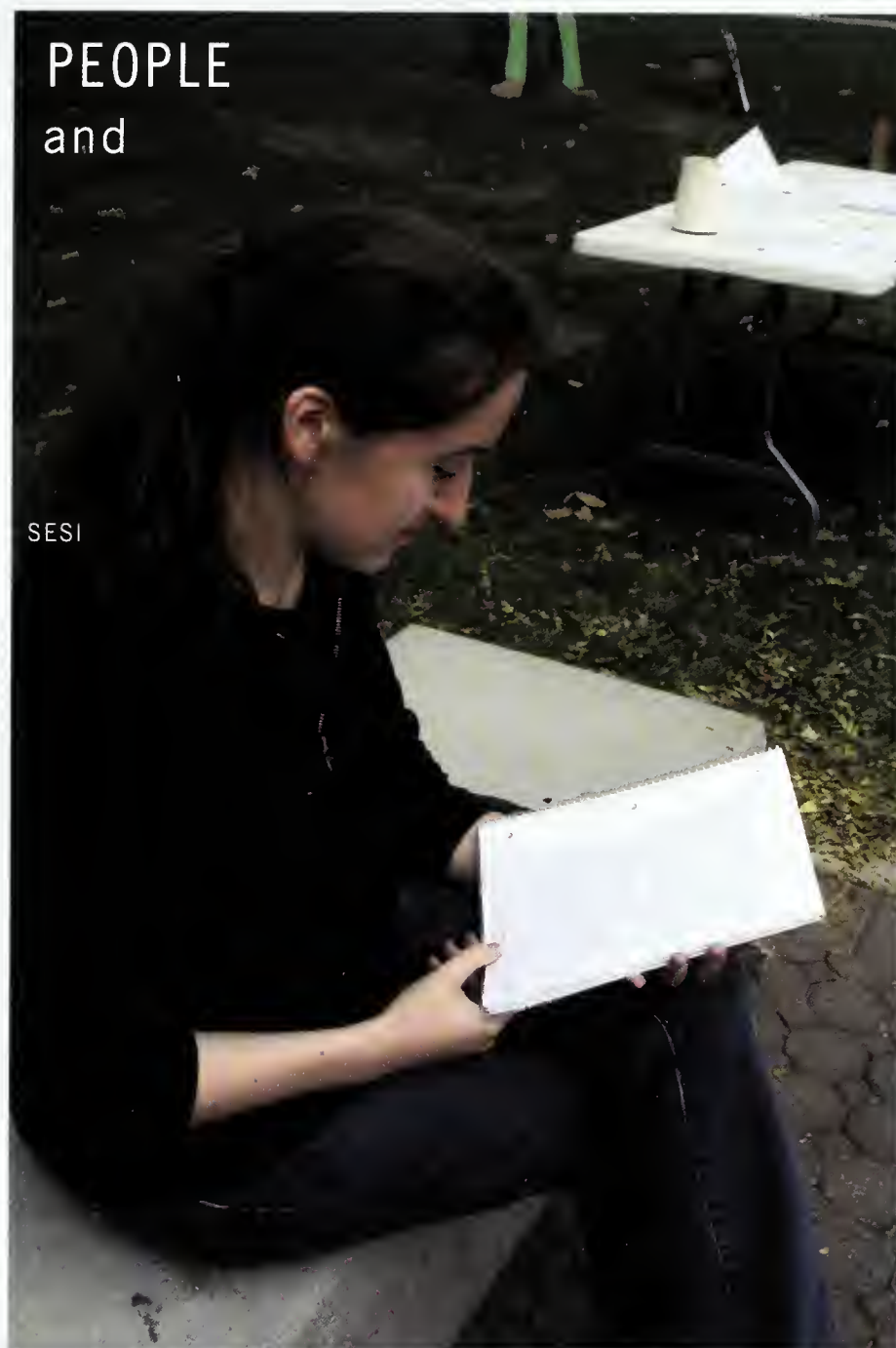
Students also helped incoming business students register, indirectly giving them some money from the program. But in the end, the experience the students and organizations got was what mattered most.

"Companies are interested in people who give back and display leadership, and I think SESI is exactly what they're looking for," Niland said.

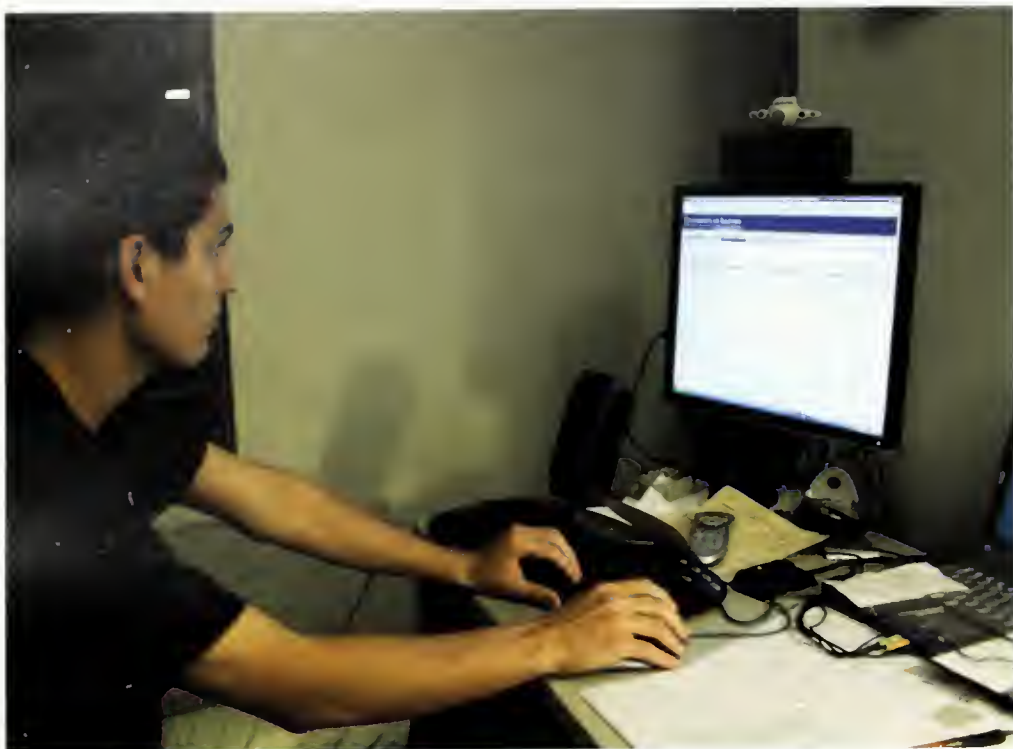
“ companies are

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who give back
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{ and I think **SESI**
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they're looking for. ”

» collette niland, director of SESI



Ursula Sieklucki, sophomore in the college of business, works through her business plan on the quad. The college of business works with numerous organizations through programs such as SESI to help students receive real-world experience as an addition to their work in the classroom



Antonio Porto, sophomore in electrical engineering is doing his homework through the school's online system, UIUC compass. Professors also choose to use other online management systems to communicate with students such as blackboard and iEnterprise



Online courses are integrated through the UIUC compass system. Students benefit from online courses because they are able to access the "classroom" from remote locations off-campus.



With a click of the mouse students can earn a degree through Global Campus. The University and CITES have worked hard to increase the technological quality of the campus to improve students' education

"it provides a greater access to **higher** education in the state of *Illinois*"



» charlie evans, associate vice president for academic affairs and global campus representative

a high-tech education

global campus helps carry the university into a technological advancement

In January 2008, Chicago, Springfield and Urbana-Champaign campuses launched an online program that allows students from around the world to obtain high-quality degrees from well-trained educators, creating a global University campus.

Global Campus offers master's degrees, bachelor's degrees, completion programs and certificates that will be fully accredited by the University. Charlie Evans, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Global Campus representative assures that Global Campus "provides a greater access to higher education."

Lee Kantz, the Chief Marketing Officer of Global Campus, said that the professors must complete a "rigorous course about teaching online." Global Campus includes the enrollment of non-traditional students, like those unable to attend the University because of location restrictions.

These students improve the diversity of the University's image. "I think it's a great opportunity for students because of its flexibility," said James Dolatowski, junior in accounting. Global Campus is not separate from the University. "To deliver its education, it partners with the college of education, and at Chicago, it partners with the college of nursing," Kantz said.

Tuition differed between programs in Global Campus. According to Evans, the Nursing program, which began in 2008, will most likely have a higher tuition than other degrees since it is in higher demand.

Abby Buckman, a sophomore in LAS, is currently enrolled in an online class which is very similar to Global Campus courses. "As a chemistry major, I already have to be in class for labs. So it's beneficial for me to take medical terminology online because it's very straight forward," Buckman said.

Global Campus is designed to maintain professor-student interaction. Evans said that the interactivity is even greater online than in a classroom. "In some classes there are 25 to 30 students, and it's hard to ask a question. In some large lectures, it is impossible," he said. "Online courses keep numbers manageable and make it easier to ask questions."

Since the University recognizes the growing demand for online learning, it will become a leader in educational advancement worldwide. "The state of Illinois has some of the best universities, but there is an education gap. Hopefully, Global Campus can educate a greater proportion of our citizens," Evans said.

story by annie koval

photo by dennis sudirdjo



Senior in business administration Mallory Herr helps Jeffrey Young, sophomore in LAS, fill out an application for a job as a University resident assistant. The career center employs some students in an effort to help peers share their experiences and successes.



Seniors Amanda Kiordan and Julia Siebert work together while job searching at the career center on Wright Street. The career center is often frequented by seniors looking for help with resume creation, interview practice, and networking connections.

“ we are
concerned WITH
MORE than the professional;
{ we also want to help students
find out who they are. ”

» damion lay, assistant director of the career center

find out where you are going

student volunteers and employees help others prepare for life after college

Students come from around the country to become Illini. They are here to learn, to go to class, to party, to get involved, to find out who they are, and to figure out what they want to do with the rest of their lives. Yet, the problem is not so much figuring out which career is right, but how to get there. The University has more than 25 career offices to help students achieve this goal, and the career center offers a variety of services. Unfortunately, most are unknown to and underutilized by a majority of students on campus.

As a part of the division of student affairs, the mission of the career center is to help students with skills that will help them become members of the professional world, after graduation. Students who are nervous about their future careers receive help from other students and professionals.

There are countless options available to students in any year or on academic career path. Students can see a career counselor for answers or advice, attend workshops to learn about planning for graduate school, attend a job fair, apply for an internship, or prepare for health professions. Blaire Badgley, a senior in speech communications went to the career center while preparing her applications for law school. Blaire said, "The best part was I could just walk in and get my résumé looked at. I didn't even have to wait."

Students can even set up mock interviews to prepare themselves for real-life situations. After a taped, half-hour long, question-and-answer session, the student and interviewer watch the recording to recognize strengths and weaknesses. Many students practice to improve in their weakest areas, then come back for a second taping. Assistant Director of the career center Damion Lay described the process as incredibly helpful because "often students go into their first interview tongue-tied and nervous. This helps them know what to expect."

The biggest problem the career center faces is that not enough students know about or take advantage of their services. Badgley said her visit to the career center was only her second, but she said if she could do it all again, she would have gone much earlier.

The career center also provides students with the opportunity to get advice from other students who train and become members of an outreach team. Missy Shields, a junior in accounting, reviews résumés and gives presentations to other students. "We are trying to bring in more students and have created a first-year team to promote freshman awareness," Shields said.

Lay believes "it's never too early to begin thinking about your career journey." The career center is always there to help students in need. "The career center is about so much more than just helping students find a job," Lay said. "We are concerned with more than the professional. We also want to help students find out who they are."

story by melissa silverberg

photos by luann nicolosi

NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS

dr. susan curtis uses unique methods to help her students learn

"Better knowledge and better living...through accounting." If this somehow seems unusual to you, Dr. Susan Curtis agreed. Known around the business quad and the campus for her unorthodox, yet engaging teaching style, Curtis is the perfect faculty image for the University. Unique is the perfect word to describe Curtis and the interactions that she has with her students. From her ever-changing fashionable hats (She has 42 in her growing collection.) to her engaging class lectures filled with show tunes and life lessons, Curtis never ceases to keep her students on the edge of their seats with enticing lectures.

Every lecture is reflective of the musical side and the practical side that Curtis says, led her toward the business world. In her younger days, she said that she was always good at manipulating and analyzing numbers and was also keen to economic news while being the Miss Theater that many of her friends and family knew her as.

Who would think to demonstrate competitive strategies through tic-tac-toe and rock, paper, scissors? Curtis' efforts to make the learning process smooth is seen throughout her lectures while her efforts to challenge and test the critical-thinking abilities of students is reflected in her weekly assignments which require communication between students.

Profit and ethics are two concepts that are part of daily decision making. Rationally, we make decisions that will bring us the most positive outcome and also reflect our values. However, there is a

misconceived notion that decisions in the business world are all about making profit. Curtis passionately disagrees. From her experience of seeing the business world evolve and industries disappear, Curtis reminds us, although business decisions are often about the numbers. It is ultimately people who are left to deal with its repercussions.

Knowledge and experience are both critical in our perception of the world. Class interactions with Curtis narrow the gap of asymmetric knowledge in the material covered for the students. However, it is not just knowledge that one learns to value in talking with Curtis. To her, knowledge and experience are built in a spiral in which different layers build on top of another. In the process, the assimilation of both concepts become easier and easier for one to do.

Curtis' inviting nature and approachability as well as her strong sense of responsibility to provide students with the best quality of education, represent Illinois' prestigious reputation of readying society's future leaders. The educational model that the department of accountancy uses is one of the key reasons why Curtis chose to stay at Illinois after receiving her Ph.D. Not only is Curtis happy teaching students and readying the world's future business leaders, she enjoys every minute of it.

ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY



Prof Curtis busts a move in the middle of class to help reinforce what she's teaching and make students remember what they learn. Prof Curtis was one of the more enjoyable professors on campus while still teaching a challenging class.

“Better Knowledge
and better living...
through accounting.” }
» dr. susan curtis,
department of accountancy

dotted skies

aviation majors fly through their education

In the land of cornfields, wide spaces are no special feature. But there is something about flying 5,000 feet above the earth that beckons to the minds of students in aviation. The institute of aviation is placed snugly in the outskirts of Savoy, Ill., amidst spaced-out buildings, hangars converted into classrooms and laboratories, and wide roads backed by two runways.

The institute boasts at least 25 aircrafts like piper archer iills, piper arrows, piper seminole's and beechcraft sundowners. A student interested in a commercial pilot license must clock 200 hours of flying along with numerous simulator hours. A simulator is a flight training device which mimicks the experience of flying an actual aircraft.

The institute has a professional pilots program and a human factors program. The professional pilots program trained students for the CPL, while the human factors program takes them through four years of undergraduate study with classes in psychology, ergonomics, accident investigation and other such "humane" factors that a pilot would need in his career.

There are a lot of students who apply to the University for the human factors program every year, said Laura Gerhold, a part-time flight instructor and the academic advisor for the institute. At present, the program has around 230 students.

"A lot of students become full-time instructors after they graduate. A sudden demand for pilots has opened a lot of doors for these students with a lot of top airliners," said Michael Potts, sophomore in aviation, who also works at the institute's information desk.

"Our University is one of the very few to have the privilege of owning its own airport," said Nirav Shah, a graduate student in aerospace engineering. "I hope I can tie the experience I will gain from my course here and my graduate studies together."

Yearningly, he looked up at the sky dotted with an aircraft being flown by a trainee pilots and said, "I miss my wings...when you are up there in the sky, the body of the aircraft feels like your outstretched arms, and that's when they become 'your wings'. You are the bird, and the aircraft is your wing; That is what aviation does to you."

— by pragnan kumar
and by brian miller

>>

Shawn Piper, sophomore in aviation, hangs out with the plane he usually practices on. All students begin with small aircraft, moving up as they progress through the program.



The University owns many planes of different types for the institute's use, all housed at Willard airport.



“when
you are
up there in the sky,

the body
of the aircraft
feels like your out-stretched arms,

{ *and that's when* they become
‘your wings’.
That is what aviation does to you. ”

» nirav shah, graduate student in aerospace engineering

a well-honored faculty

only the best make up illinois faculty

Many professors have received prestigious awards and distinctions. "The University is one of the most prestigious schools in America," said Matt Grant, freshman in engineering. This sentiment is prevalent throughout the campus, with students enjoying Illinois' reputation as a first-class university.

Award-winning professors include two Pulitzer Prize winners, Leon Dash and Bill Gaines. Twelve faculty members have won the Nobel Laureate. John Bardeen, former Physics professor, was elected for the honor twice, in 1956 and 1972. Most recently, current professor of physics Anthony J. Leggett received the Nobel Laureate in 2003. In addition, 137 faculty members including Bruce C. Berndt, mathematics professor, were honored with the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship Award.

Like many of Illinois' brilliant faculty, Professor Berndt is heavily involved in research. In 1977, the notebooks of Srinivasa Ramanujan, considered to be India's all-time greatest mathematician, caught Berndt's eye. Ramanujan was unable to complete all of his work, and while the notebooks with his studies did not have desired proofs, they provided results. Berndt decided to crack open these notebooks and solve the necessary proofs - a feat no one had yet accomplished. He and his team of peers and students worked for more than twenty years. Until the 1990s, his work focused on the earliest found notebooks of Ramanujan. After, he began working with a professor from Pennsylvania State University, George Andrews, to solve the "lost notebook". Andrews began unraveling this lost notebook when it was found in 1976. When he was close to solving the proofs in 1998, Berndt was honored with the Guggenheim Fellowship.

Berndt's students have benefited tremendously from his research. All of his students since 1990 have worked on Ramanujan's notebooks. Twenty-four of these students received their Ph.D.s under Berndt's direction, with five more attempting completing their research and education for the degree this year. Their work stimulates more and more research, allowing students to gain hands-on experience before entering the work force. Berndt said, "The wonderful thing about Ramanujan's works are [they] are not dead ends, they stimulate more work and suggest more avenues of research." His students are able to continue studying the works. Kris Campbell, a member of the University's Public Affairs faculty, described this as a "taste of research."

The University's faculty are a big part of bringing prestige to the students. Their awards and the research funding they receive as a result of those awards, benefit the students. Campbell described the University as "more world renowned" due to the excellent professors. Campbell said, "The University without faculty and students is just buildings."

ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO



Prof. William S. Hammack's award for service to society is displayed at the University. Many professors put their honors on display.

"The **University** without
faculty *and* students
is just *buildings*."

The **excellence** *and* stature
of the **University** *are* based
on *the faculty*
and **students**."

» kris campbell, public affairs faculty member



Willard Broom, former University Dean, speaks to a full audience in Foellinger Auditorium. Distinguished faculty are involved in all majors all over campus.

day by day

the life of a college student is cherished by
many as they move on to the next step

Football games, final exams, 21st birthdays, graduation - major events in any college student's life. Yet it is day-to-day life that develops the college experience. At any given moment, students are studying, partying, napping, learning, or participating in numerous other daily activities.

Lindsay Saklak, freshman in LAS, is still undecided on her major but stays organized by writing everything in her I-book. "At first it was hard because you had so much time, but also so much to do, but now I'm getting used to a routine," Saklak said.

When Monday morning comes around, most students are still recovering from enjoyable weekends and may need coffee to get through the day. Saklak described a typical Monday that involved class, homework and hopefully, a nap.

By Tuesday and Wednesday, most students are more awake and ready for the week. Some students have class all day, but may find time to doze off in a large lecture. While these aren't the biggest party nights on campus, the evening hours may be filled with homework, club meetings, intramural sports practices and greek events.

When Thursday arrives, it's really time for homework because some students say that if they study, then Thursday night can be considered the weekend. Many students are professionals at balancing work and play. Friday afternoon fits neatly into this plan as it may be used for work or rest before another night out.

Saturday mornings are often reserved for tailgating and cheering on the football team. For others, those hours are solely for sleeping. During the day, students may complete homework and make a trip to the library. Sophomore in the college of business Rich Borucke doesn't use an I-book, yet manages to keep his homework and extracurricular activities straight with a Saturday-morning mental recap. "Balance is the key to getting everything done and still having fun," Borucke said.

Sunday tends to be a catch-up day. Students do laundry, write papers or study for upcoming tests. Campus is quiet, and students can be found relaxing on the quad or in the Union. The next week may bring a life-changing event or just another dinner with friends. "It really is all of these smaller, day-to-day activities that make up life here," Borucke said.

Photo: m. h. s. g. o. y. e. r. b. e. r. g.
Caption: Kristin O'Brien

Sophomore in English Caroline Murdoch and junior in LAS Chris Girardo spend some free time between classes playing "Magic the Gathering." The basement of the union building is frequented by students who have time to kill between classes as well as those looking for a quick bite to eat.



Kevin Walsh, a senior in advertising, puts Amanda DouxWap, a senior in LAS, in a sleeperhold while the joke around in Lincoln Hall. Many students choose to hang out inside campus buildings instead of making the trek home between classes.



{ “balance is the key to getting everything **done** and still having fun.”

» rich borucke,
sophomore in the college of business

technology most wired

the university works to update classrooms

Walking around campus, most students can be seen either talking on their cell phones or listening to their iPods. The University is not far behind the students when it comes to technology in research and development. "There are so many advances being made on this campus in terms of technologies and adopting technologies for teaching," said Leslie Hammersmith, director of CITES educational technologies.

At the moment, the University invests in a few areas of educational technologies in an effort to improve the learning process. "Illinois Compass was upgraded to the latest version in order to take advantage of new features that meet the needs of users, better accessibility and performance improvements," Hammersmith said.

This upgrade has not gone to waste as some students depend greatly on the Web site. "I think it makes it a lot easier to have all of your notes on Compass," said Maggie Gradala, freshman in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS). "You can [bring the] print-outs to class."

IDEALS (Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship), although not new to the University, is a Web site that allows faculty, staff and graduate students to post their research papers, reports and other important research on the Internet. The IDEALS service provides online access to the work of faculty, staff and students, while allowing their achievements to be recognized as well.

The University has also made attempts at making lectures and other large enrollment classes more interactive. One change is the iClicker. "I think [it's] useful. It helps you understand the material better because it's interactive with the class," said Jennifer Kindemann, a freshman in biology. However, all of this technology requires funding. "Millions of dollars worth of time and money has been put into updating technology and technology infrastructure on campus," Hammersmith said.

Some students don't believe that such expensive technology is absolutely necessary. "Sometimes it's frustrating to me that computers become outdated so fast," said Nerijus Aleksa, sophomore in the college of LAS. "To a certain extent, I think many of us [are] convinced that certain gizmos are "necessary," while actually they are just a cool product backed by a successful advertising campaign."

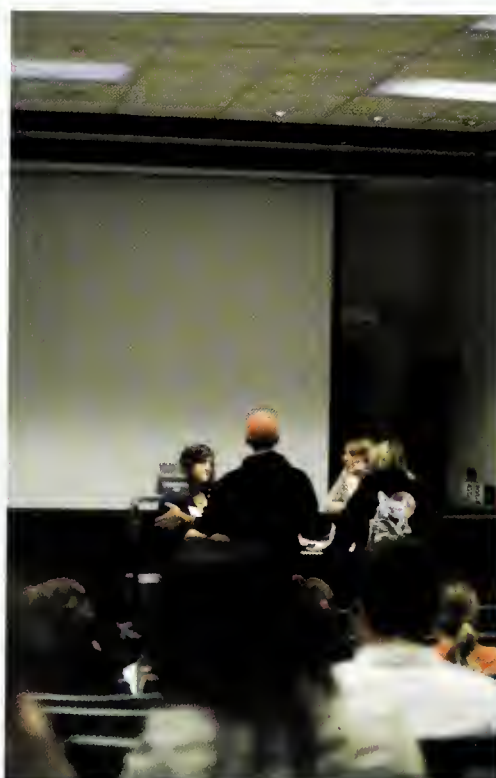
Others, such as Gradala, disagree. "I think it makes [information] easier to learn in our classes and it is easier for the professors to communicate with their students outside of classes with the new technology that we're using," she said. The University prides itself as an image of technological advancement. As one of the top-twenty wired colleges as recognized by "PC Magazine," this campus continues to strive towards further advancements for the benefit of its students.

by Lauren Iaws
and Dennis Sudirdjo



iClicker is used in the FSHN T01 class in Bevier Hall auditorium. iClickers are intended to get a class sample to debate whether a problem or subject needs to be discussed further.

Dr. Dawn Bohn uses a projected pc to demonstrate the details of her lecture. The use of projector and a projected pc screen was a common trade amongst large classrooms.



WITH HONORS...

honors programs distinguish students and provide educational opportunity

To the students who want to distinguish themselves from the rest of the pack, the University offers honors programs. Graduating with honors is considered receiving the highest academic recognition. To graduate with honors, students can apply to the Departmental Honors Program, James Scholar Program or the Campus Honors Program. Since the requirements for each of the programs may overlap, it is feasible for a student to belong to more than one of these programs.

The Departmental Honors Program is designed for qualified students who take a special interest in their department. These students can choose to complete departmental honors courses, seminars or research projects. Students are eligible to become a James Scholar by invitation only as an entering freshman, or they may nominate themselves after completing one semester's courses. Freshmen and sophomore students partake in their general studies as usual but receive honors through the completion of extra work.

The Campus Honors Program, is directed toward the best of the best, as only 125 students are admitted to the program each year. The advantages of graduating with honors include receiving a small scholarship for freshman year, notification about other scholarships and networking with alumni to learn about possible careers and graduate schools. Chancellor's Scholars must take an honors course

each semester of their freshman and sophomore year through the Campus Honors Program, which offers classes solely for program members.

Liz Rogers, a senior in math and religious studies, is eligible for departmental honors and is both a James Scholar and a Chancellor's Scholar. "If students take their own initiative to be a part of the program, you can profit by forming friendships within the small groups and discussion-oriented classes which provide a comfortable atmosphere," Rogers said.

Evan Marsh, a senior in linguistics and a Chancellor's Scholar believes the benefits of being a Chancellor's Scholar include "being able to enroll in classes before anyone else, working closely and interacting with the faculty and students in classes of ten to eighteen students, and the satisfaction of working hard in a challenging and stimulating environment."

Being part of an honors program at Illinois is an exciting achievement. Students who are invited to be part of an honors program find themselves surrounded by collegiate scholars and equipped with the education of a lifetime.



{ “If students take their *own initiative* to be a part of the program, you can profit by forming friendships within the small groups and discussion-oriented classes . . . ” }

Honors student Kristin Segovich quietly studies in Busey Hall. Segovich is one of many who chose a quieter living space in which to focus on their studies.



Freshman Elizabeth Hart laughs at a joke made by a friend while watching a movie. Hart travels home to Davis, California during breaks from school.

“Students come for the *total* experience,

{ a combination and balance of
academics and social life –

‘The Illinois Experience.’”

» renee romano, vice chancellor

from over yonder

out-of-state students come to illinois for many reasons

From the city to the southern farms, odds are a student will tell you they are from Illinois when asked where they are from. Yet Illinois is home to students from North Dakota, India, Maryland, England and many other locations as well.

According to the Princeton Review, 5 percent of Illinois' students come from other states. While these statistics may seem small, they account for thousands of people. The University's homepage boasts that within these percentages, all 50 states and more than 115 countries are represented. And behind these numbers are real students, living day-to-day life in their new home at Illinois.

The University offers an overall "Illinois Experience" that is unique to our school and attracts students from all over the globe, said Renee Romano, the vice chancellor of student affairs. Romano explained that "students come for the total experience, a combination and balance of academics and social life."

Priyanka Govindraj, a freshman originally from Fort Lauderdale, Fla. left the sunny climate for the chilly cornfields of the Midwest. But Govindraj said coming to Illinois for its outstanding civil engineering program was the "best decision [she] ever made." While Govindraj was very nervous about going to school across the country, she said, "I was so amazed by all the opportunities. It's like no matter what major or interests you have, there are three or four ways for you to get involved."

With out-of-state and even international students adding to the campus community, Illinois has an incredible sense of diversity. Romano said, "The diversity we have is not just of ethnic or religious backgrounds, but a diversity of thoughts and ideas." It is with these ideas combined that all students are able to come away with a better overall educational experience.

One downfall to having a growing population from outside Illinois is that some in-state students feel they were denied admittance in an attempt to admit a student of the same caliber from a different state. While Romano admitted there has been controversy over this issue in the past, she explained that every student at Illinois was admitted because of their history of excellence and the belief that they could add to the campus as a whole.

In her own way, Govindraj proved that excellence through her admission and adjusted to life here. "The wind and cold weather was a pretty harsh shock. I have some great new friends to get me through," she said.

While there may not be as many out-of-state students as there are in-state, each still makes up the Illinois family adding to the positive image of diversity.

text by melissa silverberg

photos by luann nicolosi

one major headache

even the 'undecided' must eventually make a decision

Deciding on a major can be like waking up with a really bad hangover, an hour late for an exam you did not study for and then dizzily scurrying off to class to try to take a stab at it. You're lost and it's not easy.

Needless to say, many students feel overwhelmed when choosing a major. "About 40 percent of all U of I graduates would have changed their major if they had to do their undergrads all over again," said Julian Parrott, the assistant provost for general studies.

Dr. Michael C. Hirschi, an assistant dean in the college of engineering, focused on “what makes them happy, because that’s what it’s about” when advising students. However, students do not always take advantage of the college advising available to them. Hirschi said, “One of the things that I hear all the time [from students] is that the University is ‘so big, you’re just a number and nobody pays any attention to you.’”

Hirschi, a professor in agricultural and biological engineering, added that from his personal experience, professors and advisors really do get to know all their students to the best of their ability. Both Hirschi and Parrott encouraged students to take advantage of the Career Center at the University, as well as the academic advisors on campus.

An additional option for students who needed help when declaring a major was the new general studies program at the University. The general studies program was implemented this summer to give students more time to discover their interests with a curriculum that is self-designed. The implementation of the general studies program especially encouraged first and second year students to experience all fields within the University.

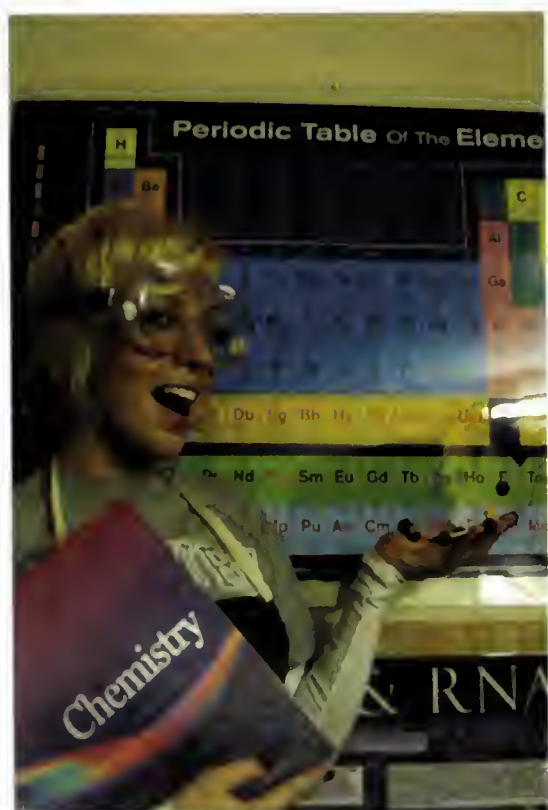
"We believe that the best start a student can have in their academic career is one where they have the freedom and flexibility to explore their options," Parrott said. Some students feel a lot of pressure to fulfill a certain profession-driven image, but they often miss the point.

"It's not the major, it's the student," said Parrott. Ultimately, a student needs to prove he or she is willing and capable to learn. More importantly, it's the student's personality and "people skills" that will determine success or failure in their chosen career path."

Molly Niesen, a Ph.D. student in the institute of communications research said, "Pick something that you want to do that you would do regardless of how much money you make," She thought she made the mistake of using her undergraduate years pursuing a career that would yield a lot of money, "but not necessarily something that would improve the quality of my life."

Parrott agreed with Niesen and believed that “students should be taking classes that they want to take, what they are excited about, what they think will inspire them.”

Chemistry major Heather Schneider presents her project regarding the periodic table to her chemister lab. Schneider did not enter the University as a Chemistry major, but eventually found that it was best for her



melissa h. m.
k. maybaum



“It’s not the
major,
it’s the { **student.**”

Julian Parrott, assistant provost for general studies

Sean Laude is learning about computers so it one day he may use them to maximize his corporate earnings while minimizing the cost to the employer. Students in all different majors spend their time in class preparing for their careers in the ‘real world.’



UI Extension is a program reaching back to the days of President Lincoln. It took learning outside the classroom and into the real-world.

educating beyond campus

the university extends to new areas

Ornithology, food stamps, youth development, and transgenic crops are all topic areas one can master through diverse educational programs within the University's extension program. One can even become a "master gardener" or a "master naturalist" through the year-long community programs UI Extension has to offer.

"There's so much going on in the University that can really benefit the state," said Cindy Erikson, a specialist for community and economic development programs for the Extension.

UI Extension is a community education outreach effort that began with President Abraham Lincoln in 1914. Through the Morrill Act of 1862, Lincoln funded the states to produce land-grant universities for the purpose of opening the school curriculum to agricultural and technical studies such as crop science and engineering. This began a new breed of education and generated more opportunities for people wishing to pursue areas of specialization beyond the classic arts.

The UI Extension has expanded well beyond the boundaries of offering typical community education. It houses councils in every county in Illinois, all with their own agenda of educational activities to suit the region's needs.

"Needs are different from one community to the next. There is no 'one-size-fits-all' solution," said Kathy Reiser, the associate regional director of the east-central region and communications and marketing specialist for the University Extension.

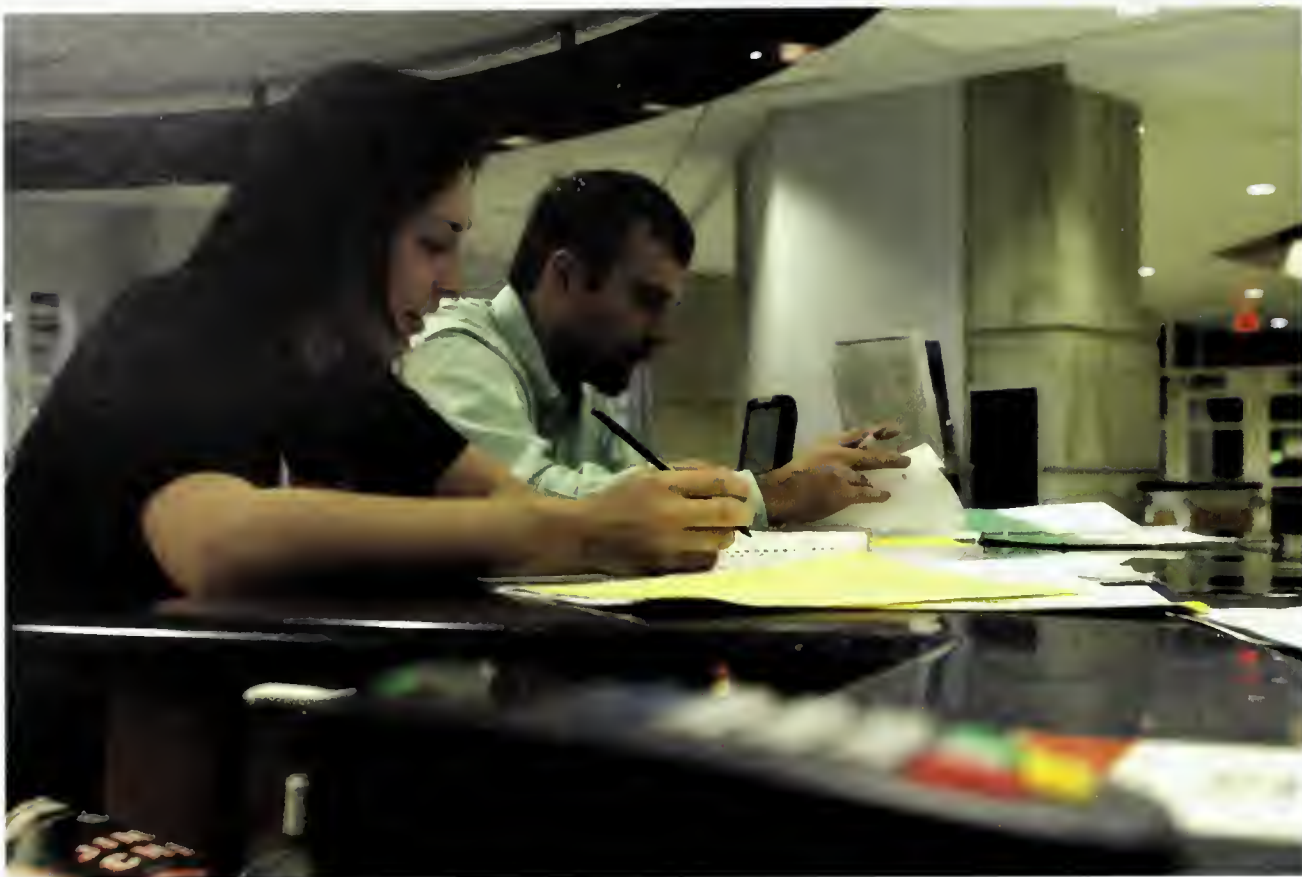
"We work with everyone: community leaders, government agencies, small businesses...We strive for information at the local level," Erickson said. UI Extension involves more than 2.5 million Illinois residents and offers non-formal adult education programs for family planning, parenting, community development, decision-making, horticulture, agricultural planning and urban development. Angela Reinhardt, an Extension unit educator for family life, stressed the importance of a work-family balance in the lives of community members.

Sandra Mason and Steve Ayers, both unit educators for Extension, spoke in periodic talk shows on WILL-TV and wrote columns for *The News Gazette* to make the public aware of the Extension program. The Extension is working towards networking with various communities through interactive webpages and public media. No doubt, the UI Extension will continue to improve the quality of life for Illinois residents.



A UI Extension participant works through lessons while on campus. The outreach program promoted community involvement and education.

—melissa clara
—brian atchley



CRCE employee Adam Jackson works on homework with a friend during his break. Good test scores are what make a good GPA, and every bit of extra study time helped.



Getting a good GPA takes a lot of work. It also took some organization.

“Employers *will be* more worried *about* where *I got* my degree and *what* my major was.”

» christina collins, sophomore in speech and hearing science

just a number?

students stress over acquiring their desired gpa

Every semester, all the work from past months comes down to one little number, a number hopefully closer to four than a zero. After the semester ends, students wait anxiously, checking their computers to see the calculation of all that hard work compiled into that one little number. Grade point averages (GPA) can be frustrating, hard to change and a numerical representation of the indescribable amount of work students put into their studies semester after semester.

At Illinois, student's GPA's are calculated differently than in many high schools and some other universities. The grading scale is a little more detailed, making calculations more complicated.

Opinions differ on the meaning of GPA in students' plans for their futures after graduation. "I would think it's really important for jobs," said Stephanie Lucas, a freshman in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS). Many students struggle with the decision of whether or not to leave space for their GPA on their resume.

"Employers will be more worried about where I got my degree and what my major was," said Christina Collins, a sophomore in the college of applied life sciences (ALS). Some students, however, will not be going straight to the professional world, but to a graduate school that requires an admission process. Lacy Alford, a supervisor of the office of admissions and records said that if your GPA is below a 2.0, it should not go on a resume but otherwise it is alright to print."

"I think my GPA is really important because I want to go to graduate school and that's a determining factor," Collins said. "But if I was just an undergrad going for my bachelor's, I don't think it would matter as much."

Some students also feel that the way the Illinois GPA's are calculated changes the playing field since the highest they can get is a 4.0. Also, an A- is already worth a 3.6 and a B- is a 2.6. Also classes worth more hours count for more in the GPA. While this system can be helpful if a student gets an A in a five hour credit class and a C in a one hour class, it can hurt other students' GPA's.

Some believe the way GPA's are calculated at Illinois allows for more competition to get better grades and as high of a grade point as possible, while others do not like the system and feel it hurts students who have good grades which may not be reflected in their GPA's.

steph lucas

brian atchley

UNDERGROUND HANG-OUT

two floors down under, students study, sleep and surf

Once upon a time, long before what we know as "Gregory Drive" existed, the Undergraduate Library was built – smack dab in the middle of what we know today as the North and South Quads -- underground. Its underground location served two purposes: to preserve the University's flat landscape in the then giant Quad (the North and South Quads used to be just one huge hunk of quad-land), and to make sure the sun could shine on the Morrow Plots

"The Undergrad is unique because we're just so focused on supporting students on their learning and professional development," said Lisa Hinchliffe, head of the Undergrad Library.

The Undergrad is a part of almost every student's life. As of this year, it is open 144 hours a week -- 24 hours on weekdays. Features of the undergrad include video-viewing mini rooms, the Writer's Workshop and Espresso Royale. The whole purpose of the Undergrad in this generation is to give students a comfortable environment to study and hang out. In the future, the Undergrad plans to create a comfortable lounge area with couches and game consoles for students wishing take a study break or just chill out.

"We try to create a space that is very comfortable place for students. We want students to hang out here," Hinchliffe said.

The Undergrad is distinct because it's the only library on campus to have a coffee shop inside. Lindsay Millette, a sophomore in college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS), said she enjoys working at Espresso Royale at the Undergrad. Intense study weeks and exam times bring the constant flow of students through the coffee shop.

"During finals week, we started making specials," Millette said. "We told people who could show us a talent they have would get a

surprise -- and the surprise was 50 cents off." Working at the Undergrad Espresso was rewarding, said Alison Rigelle, a sophomore in the college of fine and applied arts. "I don't think any of the other Espresso's are as tight as we are -- we're like one big family," Rigelle said.

The library is constantly looking for ways to communicate with students using today's technology. Students can now "ask a librarian" questions online through instant messaging, MySpace and Facebook. In addition, the Undergrad lends out USB drives, TI-89 graphing calculators, digital video cameras, portable DVD players and more for student use.

"My favorite thing about the Undergrad library is that you get to check out laptops," said Oluwaseyi Fapohunda, a junior in the college of agricultural, consumer and environmental sciences. "You don't have to worry about bringing your own from your room, so it's a lot more convenient."

Hinchliffe said that one technological goal for 2008 is "trying to figure out how to use text messaging in a more robust way." The Undergrad definitely strives to give students a comfortable, nurturing environment for individual or group study. "I think the Undergrad is a convenient place to study for group meetings - at least for business," said Wenye Zhu, a freshman in the college of business.

"We want to be inviting, responsive and supportive," Hinchliffe said. "After all, students are not just majoring in a subject, they're developing a life."

Mairin Gilmartin,
Sophomore in LAS, helps a
student check out a book.
Many students used the
library to find movies and
books that they needed for
their classes.



“ we try to
create a space THAT
{IS A VERY comfortable place
for students.

We want **students**
to hang out here. ”

» lisa hinchliffe, head of the undergraduate library



Kevin Pennington,
majoring in germanic
languages and literature,
surfs the net on one of
the Undergrad Library
computers. The Undergrad
Library was a great place
to get homework done,
do research for class
projects, and check email
in between classes.



Students choose their destination abroad in all sorts of ways. Some were drawn to a certain place, while others left the U.S. simply on a whim.

Pardip Bolina, study abroad office advisor, works with a group of students looking to travel abroad together. Some students choose to study abroad in groups, making the transfer less intimidating.



"I found
 { a sense of adventure
 that I **never** knew I had."

» lauren kirk, junior in early-childhood education

studying abroad

students go global

No matter how students get to the University, be it by car, train or plane, the scenic view is pretty much the same. Located in central Illinois, the University is surrounded mostly by farms, small towns. However, for students at Illinois, the world is an open map and students are welcome and encouraged to take advantage of study abroad programs.

"Everyone should study abroad during their career at Illinois, especially with the increasingly multicultural world and globalization in recent years," said Erika Ryser, the associate director of the Study Abroad Office. The Study Abroad Office gives students an opportunity to travel to about 50 different countries with the most popular being Spain, Italy and the United Kingdom. Students preferring a more exotic location can study in Shanghai, Singapore or even Capetown, South Africa. If the Study Abroad Office does not have the type of program a student is looking for, there are also individual study abroad offices in some colleges and other outside resources to look for study abroad opportunities. "There is no excuse for not studying abroad," Ryser said.

Lauren Kirk, a junior majoring in early-childhood education with a minor in Spanish, chose to study in Costa Rica during the spring 2007 semester to complete her required Spanish courses as well as get real world experience with the language.

"I know in my career I'm going to use Spanish, but I still wanted to go somewhere a little different," said Kirk. She stayed with a host family in a small rural town but was still able to experience the culture of the entire country through different weekend excursions. "I really loved having the freedom to travel," she said.

The Study Abroad Office offered many scholarship programs, and students chose to go abroad for varying amounts of time, two weeks to an entire year. "Whatever fits their needs and goals best," Ryser said.

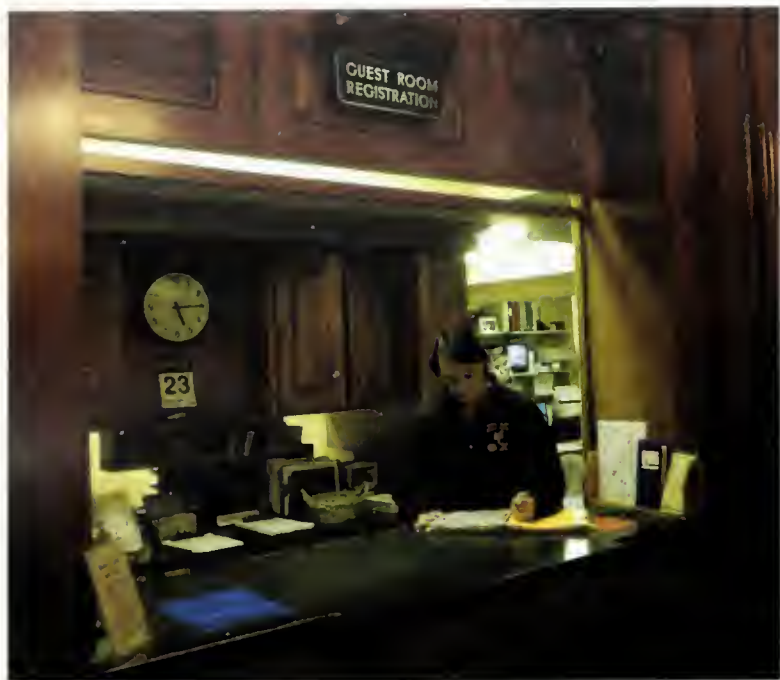
Allison Keever is a freshman in natural resources and environmental sciences (NRES) and will be studying in Jamaica for two weeks during the upcoming summer of 2008. "I thought it would be fun to go to another country and get a better appreciation for different cultures," Keever said. She will be traveling as a part of a class, ACES 298, with the University.

Ryser said, "The study abroad program makes us an international leader and gives students an education preparing them for the 21st century world." Kirk valued the experience intensely. "I found a sense of adventure that I never knew I had," Kirk said.

and the college's student
body - Brian Atchley

caps, gowns and careers

seniors balance excitement and anxiety in their last months on campus



Illini Union hotel employee checks the registration log. Parents often have to reserve hotels months in advance in preparation for graduation ceremonies.

Commencement is a campus-wide event experienced by thousands of students every year. For many students, it signifies the end of their academic career, as well as the beginning of their independent, adult lives. Although the ceremony lasts for less than two hours, it is an event which requires year-round planning.

Babette Hiles, director of special events for Illinois, is one of three people in charge of commencement preparations every semester, a job which includes working with the cap and gown vendor, mailing information to students and parents and creating a commencement guidebook to provide students with details of the event.

"It's a lot of work, but it's great because this is what we're about," Hiles said. "This is why the University is here. This is the day, the big celebration."

Many students prepare for graduation by experiencing as much of the local culture as they can during their last semester at the University, said Michael Lim, senior in college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS), as he and his friends are doing.

"I have this long list of places I want to go throughout Champaign-Urbana, and things I want to do that I haven't taken advantage of the past four years," Lim said. "Things that are available around the city that students don't take advantage of – we're trying to."

Amy Lopez, senior in the college of education, said she's looking forward to commencement because she'll finally see the result of all her years of hard work. "It's just recognizing the effort and congratulating you and celebrating your achievements," Lopez said. "My goal has always been to walk across that stage, so it'll be fulfilling."

Some students, like Caryn Paige Jones, senior in LAS, are excited to be graduating, but are going to miss the close friends they see everyday on campus. "I'm not the best person keeping up with contacts, so all the friendships I really created, I feel like I'm gonna lose some of them," Jones said. "And I'm an only child, so the friends that I do have are like my family here, so it's gonna be hard."

Blake Stubbs, senior in LAS, said that his plans for graduation include finishing up his required classes and hopefully putting his political science degree to use. "I hope to find a job. Now what job that may be, I can't say," Stubbs said. "If I could have a dream job it would be to work on a political campaign, in the communications side of it."

Stubbs also said that while he's had a great four years at the University, he's ready to receive his degree and move forward to the next stage in his life.

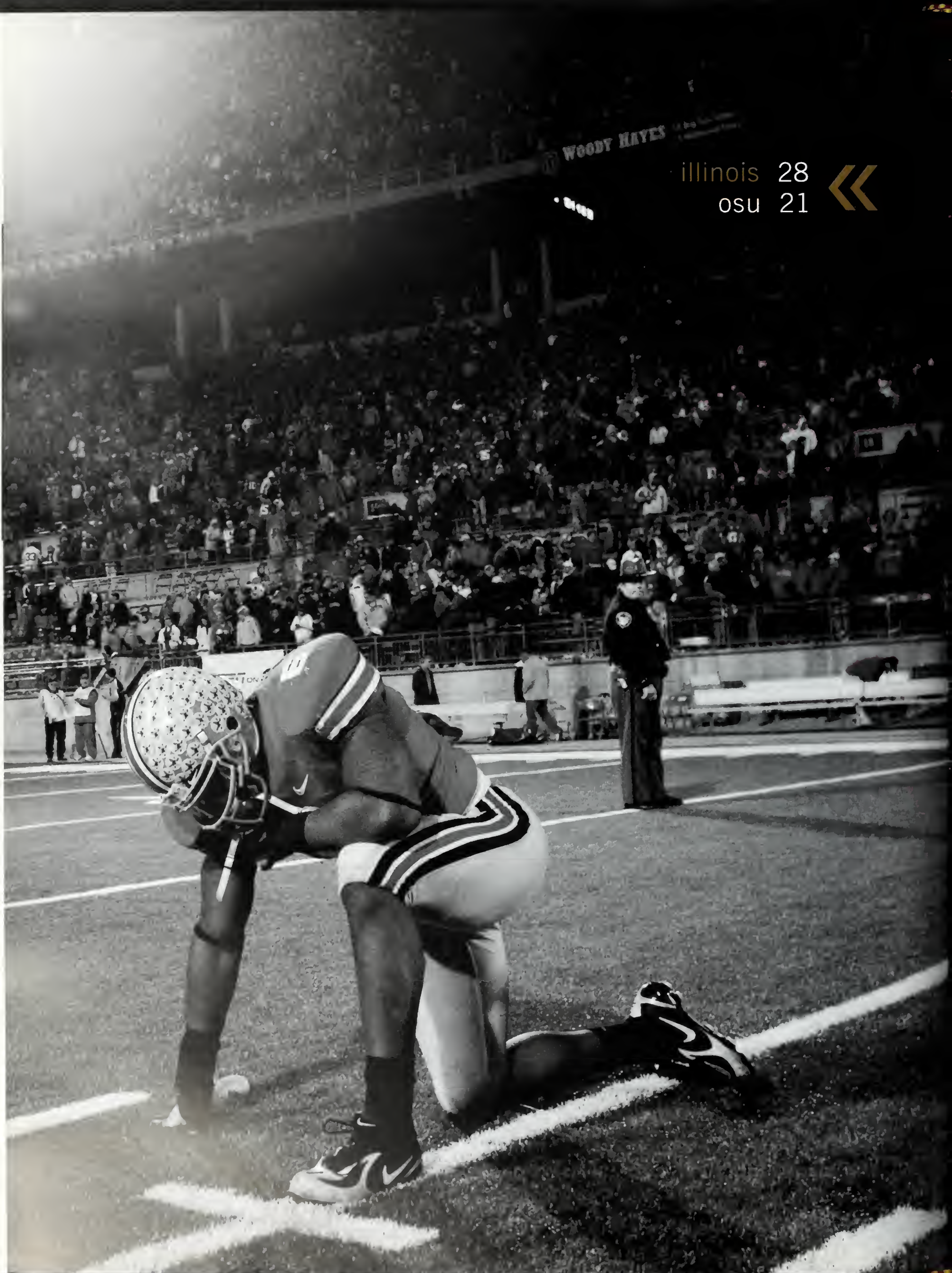
"It's been a very busy four years for me, so getting that diploma is going to be the one thing that shows, 'Wow, I accomplished my goals,'" Stubbs said. "We earned it, and it's a way for the University to give us a proper send off."



The Illinois Alma Mater is located at the entrance to the main quad at Green and Wright Streets.



The career center helps students with the job search. Employees try to help relieve stress about graduation as well.



illinois 28
osu 21



athletics



We split our time between court and classroom, between field and laboratory. We build programs of national prominence that display our extraordinary talent as athletes and intense loyalty as Illini.

photo by josh birnbaum



Stetanie Alde, senior outside hitter for the team, is supporting her other team mates Johannah Bangert and Laura DeBruler, both freshmen for the team. The volleyball team finish the season in solid fashion.

women's volleyball

choosing the winning track

Five freshmen became part of the women's volleyball team, and made up what Head Coach Don Hardin calls "the top recruiting class in the country." With so many young players combined with an older team, not only was it a season of new experiences but one filled with hope for an even brighter future. "This is an outstanding freshmen class," Hardin said. "The whole team is really a fighting crew; they have a ton of enthusiasm."

Volleyball is unique because Illinois plays each of the Big Ten teams twice, and games are held on Friday and Saturday nights, which Hardin said requires a quick turn around and the ability to always be ready for more. It was in these games that Coach Hardin was able to gain his 400th win. "It has been nice to get back on the winning track," Hardin said.

"It was great to have the freshmen come in and light a fire under our team," said Ashley Edinger, sophomore in molecular and cellular biology. Edinger explained that the team prepares for every match in a room shaped like a circle, which has no beginning or end, symbolizing that every player is equal. A freshman is no less and no more than a senior, she said.

Aside from strong player to player relationships, women's volleyball also inspires hundreds and even sometimes thousands of Illini fans to get involved and sit on the edge of their seats cheering, practically on top of the action.

"We have the best fans, they get so riled up," said Laura Debruler, a freshman majoring in kinesiology. "They make the whole game so much more intense." As a freshman, Debruler discovered the commitment that is required of student athletes when they balance their time among their studies, sport and social lives. But, with a strong love of the sport, that time commitment is well worth it, she said.

With students packing in Huff Hall on the weekends to see the women's volleyball team take on their next opponent, it's easy to dream of success.

"We want to take the program to another level," Debruler said. "Everyone is so competitive, it's all about dedication."

story by melissa silverberg

photos by kristin o'brien



Lizzie Bazzetta, junior setter for the team, sets the ball up in the air for her teammate to spike to. The women's volleyball team displayed yet another satisfying season to the loyal fans.

Alumni Bowl (W) 4-0
Bowling Green (W) 3-1
IPIW (W) 3-0
Dayton (L) 3-2
ISU (L) 3-2
Rice (W) 3-0
Texas A&M (C) (W) 3-0
Marquette (W) 3-0
Creighton (W) 3-1
Southern Illinois (W) 3-0
Toledo (W) 3-1
Wisconsin (L) 3-1
Michigan (L) 3-2
Michigan State (W) 3-2
Northwestern (W) 3-0
Indiana (L) 3-2
Purdue (L) 3-2
Iowa (W) 3-0
Minnesota (W) 3-1
Penn State (L) 3-2
Ohio State (L) 3-2
Purdue (W) 3-0
Indiana (W) 3-1
Northwestern (L) 3-1
Michigan State (W) 3-0
Wisconsin (L) 3-0
Michigan (L) 3-0
Ohio State (L) 3-1
Penn State (L) 3-0
Minnesota (L) 3-0
Iowa (W) 3-0

scoreboard

cheerleading

illini cheerleaders climb to new heights

The University of Illinois has two cheerleading teams, an orange squad and a blue squad, both coached by Stephanie Record. Veterans and more experienced cheerleaders are on the orange squad while newcomers are on the blue squad.

"We had eight spots for guys to fill this year so we've been focusing on recruiting guys," said head coach Stephanie Record. The team was able to fill all eight spots and added two additional members as well.

The Illini cheerleader's season began in July. The squad members came to campus to prepare for training camp, which the Universal Cheer Association hosted at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. After camp, the athletes returned home for a week before returning to school to get ready for football season. Both squads cheered at home football games, and cheerleaders on the orange squad rotated to travel to away games. The orange squad also cheers at men's basketball games, while the blue squad cheered at women's basketball games.

Coach Record planned on taking a competition squad, composed of members from both teams, to the Universal Cheer Association's competition in Florida. The University of Illinois has not been to the competition since its 15th-place finish, 15th three years ago.

In addition to games and competitions, cheerleaders have to fit practices and appearances into their busy schedules. Both squads practice for two and a half hours each night, three nights a week. They lift weights two additional nights a week. The teams worked with to the community in its spare time, hosting cheerleading camps for middle schools kids and kids in the community. They spend time with patients at Carle clinic as well, again working with children.

"Knowing I have practice motivates me to get stuff done early," said Natalie Keable, a sophomore in the college of fine and applied arts. Keable was a member of the orange squad this season after cheering for the blue squad last year as a freshman. Keable said that supporting the University and its athletic teams was one of the most important roles of a cheerleader. Coach Record described cheerleaders as 'ambassadors' of the University. "Cheerleaders at the University, as much as any other sport participant, are true student-athletes," Coach Record said.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
SPORTS INFORMATION SERVICE



“other
people
know who
they
are, whether
{ they’re in
uniform or not.”

Illini cheerleaders perform in front of a full stadium at a football game. Executing the score in pushups after each touchdown, the squad is known for doing the work in a connected 'I' formation.

» stephanie record, head coach

roses are red, illini are orange

zook reaches new heights with a trip to the rose bowl



Illinois players enter the field before the game against Western Illinois at Memorial Stadium in Champaign on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2007. Illinois won, 21-0. The Illini traveled to the Rose Bowl for the first time in 24 years.



Illinois Vontae Davis, left and Justin Harrison celebrate after shutting down Indiana on a third down attempt forcing a punt. September 22, 2007. Illinois beat Indiana 27-14. The win was followed by another over Penn State 27-20.



Ohio State's Larry Grant kneels on the field after top-ranked Ohio State lost 28-21 to Illinois at Ohio Stadium in Columbus, Ohio, on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2007.

"You won't stop us." The chant comes from the orange-clad student section as the fourth quarter of the Illinois vs. Penn State football game wound down. Security guards in neon shirts backed up by straight-faced police officers line the edges of Memorial Stadium as Illini fans threatened to rush the field. While the fans were stopped from celebrating the first win over a ranked team of the season, the Illinois football team could not be stopped during their 2007 season.

The players allowed their coaches to push them to levels they did not believe they could get to, said Head Coach Ron Zook. The Illini football team had suffered many losing seasons since Zook joined the Illinois family. "Winning is a habit, but so is losing," Zook said. "We finally developed a winning attitude."

The team was able to turn the season around with huge wins over #1 Ohio State University, #5 University of Wisconsin-Madison, and #17 Penn State University. "The biggest thing is to continue to improve," Zook said. "We need to understand how we got to this point and keep going." The 2007 season concluded with the team traveling to California for the Rose Bowl against USC. Though the game ended in a loss, it was a great end to a great season.

"We didn't play the way we are capable of playing, but we'll be back there," Zook said. "It was a great experience. We really have to thank the fans and the students for all of their support and energy."

Student support for the football team is a very important factor for success said Coach Zook. Although the construction on Memorial Stadium was not finished, keeping the stadium from being completely filled, season tickets sold out long before the season began. With Block 'I' in a new part of the stadium and the student section constantly overflowing with orange-clad fans, the cheers helped bring the team to victory. After several wins at home, especially the one against Penn State, the Illinois football team rushed into the crowd celebrating with their classmates and fans.

"This is the students' team, we want to make them proud," Coach Zook said. "It's an unbelievable atmosphere."

story by melissa silverberg

photos by josh birnbaum

brad vest

Sept. 1:

Illini - 34 Missouri - 40

Sept. 8:

Illini - 21 Western Illinois - 0

Sept. 15:

Illini - 41 Syracuse - 20

Sept. 22:

Illini - 27 Indiana - 14

Sept. 29:

Illini - 27 Penn State - 20

Oct. 6:

Illini - 31 Wisconsin - 26

Oct. 13:

Illini - 6 Iowa - 10

Oct. 20:

Illini - 17 Michigan - 27

Oct. 27:

Illini - 28 Ball State - 17

Nov. 3:

Illini - 44 Minnesota - 17

Nov. 10:

Illini - 28 Ohio State - 21

Nov. 17:

Illini - 41 Northwestern - 22

Jan. 1:

Illini - 17 USC - 49

scoreboard

making history

Illini travel to the rose bowl for the first time in 24 years



Illinois' Jeff Cumberland has the ball stripped away from him by USC's Terrell Thomas during the Rose Bowl game in Pasadena California, Jan. 1, 2008. Illinois lost the game 17-49.



Illinois fans pose for alumni photos during the alumni tailgate party before the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif. on Jan. 1, 2008. Though the Illini lost, fans were loyal to the end, supporting the team even as they left the field.



Illinois' Marching Illini play at Universal Studios Citywalk Sunday afternoon during the Illinois pep rally, Dec. 30, 2007. The team gathered as Ron Zook briefly spoke words of thanks to the fans before the team took off.

Illinois' first trip to the Rose Bowl in 24 years ended much like their last one -- in a blowout. In their fifth Rose Bowl appearance in school history, the No. 13 ranked Illini couldn't overcome the No. 6 ranked USC Trojans in the 94th Rose Bowl, falling 49-17.

However, the Illini and Trojans combined for 1,078 yards of total offense and Rashard Mendenhall set a school record for all-purpose yards in a season by collecting 214 total yards and one touchdown in the game. But Mendenhall's efforts weren't enough to overcome the Illini's turnovers and USC quarterback John David Booty. Illinois' offense turned the ball over four times and watched from the sidelines as Booty threw for 255 yards and three scores to lead the Trojans to their second consecutive Rose Bowl victory -- third in the last five years.

"For us to be able to play with them we were going to have to play our best game, and we obviously didn't do that," said Head Coach Ron Zook. The Trojan's tied a Rose Bowl record with 49 points and their 633 yards of offense set a record. Freshman tailback Joe McKnight finished with 125 of USC's 344 rushing yards.

"To come out here and have this happen, it hurts," junior center Ryan McDonald said. "They have great athletes, and I don't want to say we don't have the athletes to compete with them, but we did things that hurt ourselves, and it got a lot uglier than it should have." On the second play of the second half with Illinois trailing 21-3, Mendenhall ran for a 79 yard touchdown that brought the Illini offense to life. The run was Mendenhall's longest run of the season and matched the Illini's entire offensive production in the first half.

"Our offense takes a lot of pride in our running game and the things we do," Mendenhall said. "We expect to come in and make big plays, and we did that in the second half and started to believe we could play with USC."

Mendenhall would take a screen pass 55 yards into USC territory on Illinois next possession. But the big catch and run would be nullified by a fumble inside the 10-yard line by senior receiver Jacob Willis that was recovered by the Trojans in the end zone. The fumble swung the momentum of the game back in favor of the Trojans, and USC would outscore the Illini 28-7 the rest of the way.

"They took advantage of those turnovers, and we didn't take advantage of our opportunities," senior safety Justin Harrison said. "It wasn't necessarily their experience they had, but it was their composure that played a factor." USC junior linebacker Rey Mauauga led the Trojan's defense, earning Defensive Player of the Game, collecting three of USC's five sacks.

"I hate to go out this way and have the seniors see that score in their last game," Williams said. "All-in-all, we had a successful season coming off a 2-10 record last year, and it's a great accomplishment to get to the Rose Bowl. My hat goes off every guy who contributed to this team this year."

A NEW STADIUM, A NEW BEGINNING

construction begins for memorial stadium's renovation

This season began a new era for Illinois' football. The program began a return to its former glory as one of the nation's premier teams. The team finished with 9 wins and 3 losses and earned a birth to the Rose bowl. The highlight of the season was a 28-21 victory over Ohio State University, the nation's number one team at the time. Jeffrey Raju, freshman in LAS, attended every home football game this season. "It's amazing what our team is doing this year and it's exciting to watch them grow into a powerhouse in our conference," Raju said.

Along with the bolstering prestige of the football program, the Illini began reconstructing Memorial Stadium. The construction started following the 2006 football season and is expected to be complete prior to the 2008 football season.

The stadium will have better sightlines for the Memorial Stadium faithful, wider public spaces, a portal entryway, new restrooms, new concessions, additional seating in the north end zone, a re-done state-of-the-art press box

and luxurious hospitality facilities. As for the north end zone seating, it will be occupied by Block I.

Raju, a member of Block I, said, "I love it. It's a great place to be with all the fans, supporting our team. It's a great view." The reconstruction of both the program and the stadium, complete with the addition of head coach Ron Zook, was named the Illinois Renaissance. Raju said, "I believe that [the construction] will metaphorically show the change of the football team, as well as the infrastructure of our school."

Since dedication day in 1924, Memorial Stadium has hosted countless football games and seen the likes of Red Grange, Dick Butkus and other legends. The stadium's history is rich in tradition and glory. Therefore, the construction staff is working carefully to preserve the historical qualities of the stadium. The University hopes it will be a labeled National Historic Landmark, the highest national distinction a historical structure can receive.

photo by alissa groeninger
photo by roseanne overton

“*[the construction]* will

metaphorically

show the *change,*”

» ron zook, football head coach



While the entire stadium has not been altered, certain sections of Memorial Stadium closed for construction and renovation.



Cranes became a staple of the Champaign-Urbana landscape throughout the year, beginning with the Memorial Stadium renovation.

men's

cross country

running rampant on the Big Ten



Jeremy Stevens runs through his second mile at the Notre Dame Invitational. The team spent a lot of time on the road this season, as they had no home invitationals.

“You have to **live**
the life of a runner.”}

» trent hoerr, senior in LAS

The Illinois men's cross country team won the Illini Challenge at the University Arboretum in Urbana, IL, August 31, 2007. The men ran together every day in preparation for meets.

As the Men's Cross Country team's season came to a close and the Big Ten Championship neared, they anticipated the challenge. In 2005, the team finished a disappointing tenth, and in 2006, they improved slightly to finish in eighth place. This year, they were determined to be in the top five.

"I felt like we were going to do some big things at Big Tens," said Trent Hoerr, senior in LAS. "We had a chance to be the best team the University has had in over 25 years."

The team ended up falling just short of their goal, placing sixth. Hoerr said that the team started off slow and the results hadn't been what they were expecting, but that changes were seen. Another goal the team had was to qualify for the National Championship. "we were a top 40 team in the nation," Hoerr said. "They take 31 so we needed to improve just a little bit to get there."

And improve Hoerr has. He was deemed Men's Cross Country Runner of the Week when he captured the 8K individual title, which helped the Illini win the team title at the Illinois Intercollegiate Championships. His time was both a personal best and placed him on the Top 10 Illinois Times by distance record.

To see improvements and win meets, the team must follow the suggestions of their coaches and commit much of their time and efforts to the team. "At the collegiate level runners can't get away with just talent like they could in high school," Hoerr said. "A runner needs to dedicate his life to becoming great at this level."

For some on the team this meant experiencing an altered party scene. Hoerr said it meant not going to out to parties and not being at the bars until 2 a.m. and also watching their diets. With everyone working together, committing themselves in the same way, these sometimes tricky requirements were a little easier to manage.

"The team has bonded extremely well this year," Hoerr said. "In my five years being on the team, this is by far the closest we have ever been." Referring to the requirements demanded from them throughout the season and semester, he said, "You have to live the life of a runner."



Illinois Intercollegiate Championships
August 31, 2007

Illinois Intercollegiate Championships
August 31, 2007

Illinois Intercollegiate Championships
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Illinois Intercollegiate Championships
August 31, 2007

Illinois Intercollegiate Championships
August 31, 2007

scoreboard

women's
cross country
sprinting to success



Sophomore Taylor Bennet leads the pack in her second mile during the Illini Cross Country Challenge. The team hosted one meet this season, also traveling to other schools to compete.

For the 10th ranked Women's Cross Country team, the 2007 season has been one for rebuilding, growth and ultimately, success. With new head coach Jeremy Rasmussen in charge of the program and a large class of freshmen on the team, the beginning of the season could have brought up the challenge of working as a team efficiently. Yet, with hard work, constant practice and a lot of fun, the team bonded together from the very start.

Starting a new season with a new coach and young runners brought a whole different dynamic to the team and many new sources of talent and opportunities for success. Danelle Woods, a freshman majoring in mechanical science and engineering, chose to come to Illinois from Canada for the combination of great academics and the excellent athletic reputation.

Woods said, "Big Ten sports are so competitive, it's amazing how much talent there is." Woods, however, is a perfect example of this talent. She was named Big Ten freshman of the year at the Big Ten competition in October, where the Illinois team took fourth overall. Eight girls on the team achieved personal records at this meet and gained experience and inspiration to prepare for future larger meets.

This year was Coach Rasmussen's first year at Illinois after coaching the Arizona Sun Devils. Rasmussen said, "It's great to be in such a competitive conference." He hoped to help the girls improve mentally and physically and to realize that cross country was a team sport. "It's important to learn from every race and realize you aren't out there running alone, every teammate next to you in orange helps," he said.

With so many young runners and a new head coach, the team looked to captain Rachel Hernandez for leadership and experience. Hernandez was a senior majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism with a focus on sports management. Hernandez said the team went through a complete 360 reversal this season and the changes were positive.

After taking second place at the Regional Midwest competition in November, the Illinois women's cross country team headed to their fourth NCAA competition in four years. In preparation for such a huge meet Hernandez said, "I try to go over the race in my mind a few times the night before, and then just forget about it so I don't go crazy analyzing."

Hernandez explained that her team is so unique because of the internal motivation driving so many of the runners. Walking onto the team as a freshman, Hernandez was like many of the other girls, not attending Illinois on scholarship. But practicing and running purely for the love of the sport made it worth it. This team exemplifies the thirst to continually improve, which was a major pillar of Illinois in both academics and athletics.

With strong support from Illini fans, the runners were able to gain more confidence. Rasmussen said the biggest change he noticed since coming to Illinois was the support behind every part of Illinois athletics. Coach Rasmussen said, "It's great to be in Ohio or Iowa and still hear I-L-L, I-N-I at the finish line."



Illinois' Liz Mengyan races through her last mile during a home meet. The team worked as volunteers around the city of Champaign as well as competing over weekends.

Head Coach: Melissa DeVoe
Assistant Coach: Josh Burnbaum

Head Coach: Melissa DeVoe
Assistant Coach: Josh Burnbaum
Manager: [illegible]
[illegible]
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scoreboard

men's
golf



Freshman C.B. DeLuca sets his self up before hitting his own shot. The men's golf team had the privilege to host the Light in the Dark Invitational for the first time in many years.

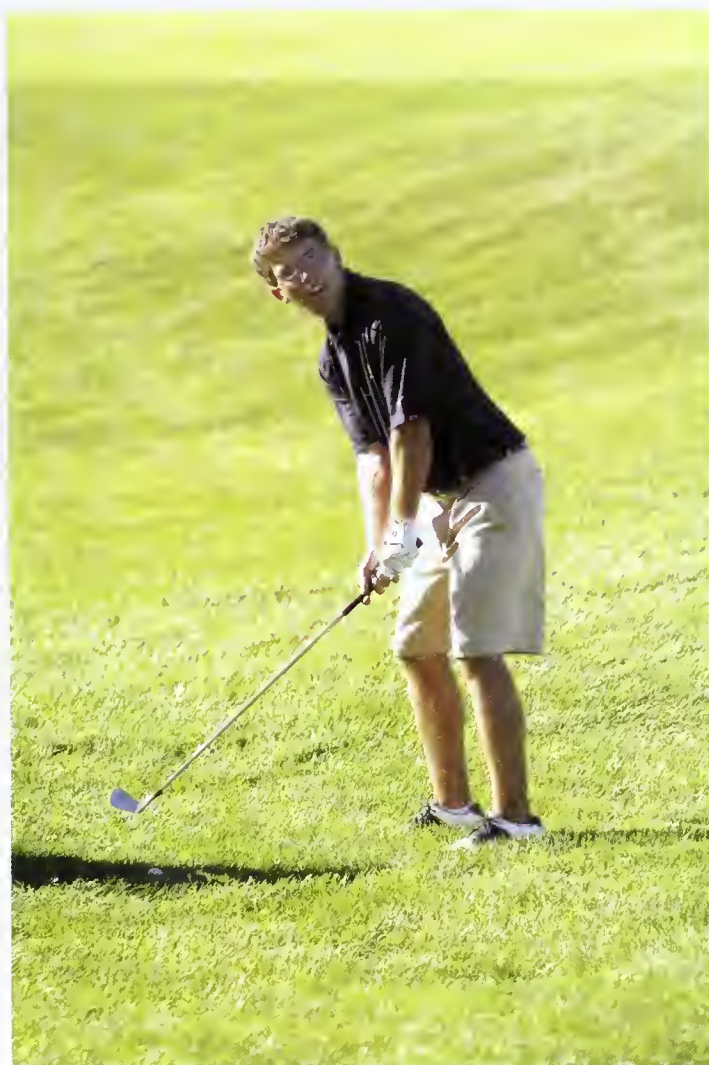
When it comes to most sports, teamwork is essential. However, that's not completely true in golf once the players step onto the course. "What makes it unique is that it's an individual sport with a team atmosphere. You bring it together in tournaments, and then you play yourself and add up the scores in the end," said coach Mike Small.

Men's golf improved during the spring semester with mostly top finishes. They were awarded second place at the Argonaut Invitational in February with a team score of 860. Scott Langley, freshman in business, led the tournament with a score of 208.

"We just go out and play our hardest and try to represent our school as best we can," Langley said. The men's golf team represented the University well throughout the season.

Even though the entire team may not be from Illinois, they became fairly close over the course of the year. "Golf is such an individual sport and you have to compete against each other all the time. We're trying to beat each other, but in the end, we walk off the eighteenth green, we shake each others' hands and are best friends," Krick said.

"We're a very close team. We do joke around with each other quite a bit and we absolutely support each other. That's one of the key things for our team. There's a level of accountability almost with each other on our team that really helps us get better," Langley said.



Zach Barlow, sophomore in Sports Management, sets himself for an iron shot. The men's golf team finished with another solid season at hand.

scoreboard



men's
club soccer

a competitive club team strives for excellence

Illinois' Gerrigh Tjelle
tries to keep the ball
away from a defender
during the men's
club soccer game
at the Florida and
Lincoln Playing Fields
Complex in Urbana
on Sept. 1. The Illini
won 4-0.



Illinois' Rickie Partyka tries to keep the ball away from a defender during the men's club soccer game at the Florida and Lincoln Playing Fields Complex in Urbana. The club team played both at home and away throughout the season.

The University men's club soccer team is unique. Because the University does not have a men's team, the club serves as Illinois' main men's soccer team. Therefore, the level of dedication on this team is greater than that of many other club sports. It is extremely competitive to make the team. This fall, six new members were chosen for the team out of the 100 athletes that tried out. Out of the team's nineteen members this year, there are ten seniors, two juniors, five sophomores and two freshmen.

The season took place in the fall. Team practices occurred Tuesday through Thursday. They often traveled on Fridays, in order to play Saturday and Sunday. Monday served as the only day of rest for the athletes. They play other club teams from across the Midwest, as well as some smaller Varsity programs. The team competed in fifteen regular season games this year, followed by regional play. They won their first regional game, a convincing five to zero defeat over Bowling Green, tied their second, and eventually fell to the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee in the regional semi-final, 1-0.

The club season does not end in the fall, however. During the spring months the team practices throughout the week. They also participate in two tournaments. The dedication of the club soccer players was evidenced by the level of participation during this secondary season, which was not mandatory.

Although the team failed to make the playoffs, they were quite successful, adding to the long-standing tradition of excellence. The team won the national championship in 2003 and finished second in the nation in 2006. Intending to improve to the playoffs next season, the men took their off-season seriously, working hard all spring.

Photo: Ali-Sa Groeninger
Photo: Josh Burnbaum

August 20:
Illinois 1 - Parkland 0

September 1:
Illinois 4 - Western 0

September 8:
Illinois 1 - Illinois State 1

September 8:
Illinois 7 - Michigan 0

September 15:
Illinois 3 - Loyola 0

September 22:
Illinois 0 - Alcorn 3

September 29:
Illinois 1 - Indiana 2

September 29:
Illinois 3 - Northern Illinois 0

October 6 (at home):
Illinois 1 - Xavier 0

October 6 (at home):
Illinois 6 - Michigan State 0

October 11:
Illinois 1 - Bradley 0

October 11:
Illinois 3 - Southern Illinois 0

scoreboard

men's
hockey
a perfect season



The team lines up
on the ice line after
winning the CCHA
hockey tournament.



Ricky Gomez pushes the puck up the ice during the CSCHL championship game versus Lindenwood University.

Nobody's perfect ... or so the saying goes. The Illini men's club hockey team begs to differ, however, as they finished their season 38-0-0, clinching the regular season, CSCHL and national championships. The team is the first of any sport at the University to finish a full season with a perfect record.

"We knew we were going to have one of the most successful years here with eight of us seniors already having won Nationals our freshman year," senior left wing Joey Resch said. "The whole season's been pretty surreal." It truly has as the Illini kept their No. 1 ranking and flawless record despite third-period 2-goal deficits, numerous overtimes and even an 11-round shootout against Ohio University. Resch had nine goals and 20 assists, including the game-winning goal in the lengthy Ohio University matchup.

Other standouts during the regular season included senior forward Drew Heredia, who led the team in goal-scoring with 26, junior forward Jason Nemeth with 23 goals and 38 assists, and the two sophomore goaltenders, Mike Burda and DJ Kohler, who saved a combined total of 631 goals and earned outstanding save percentages of 93.36 percent and 91.39 percent, respectively.

Resch said that while the junior and senior classes provided a lot of leadership and the teammates were really close with one another, he really attributed the team's success to plain and simple skill. "We just really have talent in all four classes," Resch said. "Different guys step up every night, whether freshmen or seniors; it's a good group with a lot of depth." Head Coach Chad Cassel agreed but added that the team put in the work for what they achieved.

"We're on the ice a couple hours every day," Cassel said. "The image that we try to show is that our team works really hard – we're a hard-working, disciplined team." Cassel said that the amount of time the team put in was one of the biggest factors that set them apart from other University sports teams.

"Ours is the longest season, starting right when classes start and going through the national tournament the first weekend in March," Cassel said. "And they play Friday and Saturday nights, so really, they only get Sundays off. It's a really big commitment on the players' parts." Resch said the work didn't take away from the fun, though.

"Everyone's so close, we do pretty much everything together," Resch said. "With football, you can have 60 guys on the roster, but it's easy for us to get to know each other well with a 20-man roster." The team's chemistry certainly had its impact on the ice, and Cassel said that impact escalated when on their home ice, the "Big Pond."

"It's a fun place to play, and it's a tremendous home ice advantage for us," Cassel said. "We have a very solid fan base, so winning the regular season and league championships at home made for a very exciting season – and it far exceeded our expectations to be undefeated. It's just obviously been a very fun season for us."

by Amanda Bonner
and Chad Cassel

Michigan State University (W)	1-0
Michigan State University (W)	2-0
University of Central Oklahoma (W)	1-0
University of Central Oklahoma (W)	4-0
Penn State University (W)	1-0
Penn State University (W)	1-0
Lindenwood University (W)	4-0
Lindenwood University (W)	1-0
Lindenwood University (W)	1-0
Eastern Michigan University (W)	7-0
at Eastern Michigan University (W)	6-0
St. Louis University (W)	1-1
St. Louis University (W)	3-0
Western Michigan University (W)	5-3
Western Michigan University (W)	4-0
Illinois State University (W)	11-1
Illinois State University (W)	11-1
at University of Michigan-Dearborn (W)	11-0
at University of Michigan-Dearborn (W)	6-0
at Indiana University (W)	2-0
at Indiana University (W)	6-0
Kent State University (W)	6-1
Kent State University (W)	5-0
Ohio University (W)	3-0
Ohio University (W)	2-0
at Ohio State University (W)	1-0
at Ohio State University (W)	1-0
Robert Morris College (W)	6-0
Robert Morris College (W)	1-0

CSCHL Tournament

Robert Morris College (T)	(W) 1-0
Kent State University (T)	(W) 1-1
Lindenwood University (T)	(W) 1-1

Adrian College (W)

Adrian College (W) 5-0

ACHA National Tournament

Robert Morris University (T)	(W) 1-0
University of Rhode Island (T)	(W) 5-1
Liberty University (T)	(W) 1-1
Lindenwood University (T)	(W) 1-1

scoreboard

wheelchair

basketball

teamwork breeds champions



Illinois' Steve Serio shoots the ball above Champaign's Hiroaki Kozai during the wheelchair basketball game at Hutt Hall October 28. Serio scored 22 points and contributed 9 rebounds, helping Illinois defeat Champaign, 75-65.

Between the swish of baskets, dribbling balls, and screaming fans in the stands, it seems just like any other basketball game. With all of the activity, athletic ability and excitement it is easy to overlook the fact that all of the athletes happen to be in wheelchairs. Wheelchair basketball at Illinois, both the men's and women's teams, ended the 2008 season as National Champions and living proof of what it really means to be an Illini.

With only 13 members on the women's team and many of the athletes being international students, head coach Patty Cisneros said the team is incredibly tight knit. For a third year in a row, the women's team won the national championship, and while it is a sign of success, it can also make it difficult to find motivation and work toward improvement.

"When you win a championship the bar is raised," Cisneros said. "But we are always looking to elevate the program." Carlee Hoffman, a senior majoring in recreation, sport and tourism, said that the team was able to focus on their few weaknesses and motivate each other to improve on them.

Hoffman will also be a part of the 2008 U.S. Paralympics team. With so much talent, Hoffman said that many other teams were ready to challenge the Illini. Although the fan base for wheelchair basketball has not been huge in the past, Cisneros said that it is helpful to have the support of the friends and parents they do have.

Men's wheelchair basketball is under the same program and has the same tradition of national championships. The team also won the sports highest award at the end of the 2008 season, said head coach Mike Frogley. One important aspect of the team is their ability to see each other as equals in spite of the many differences in nationality and ability amongst team members.

"We all see value in each other," Frogley said. "We know we are all different, but what counts is the bulk of the person."

Frogley also said that the wheelchair basketball teams can be seen as a smaller view of what we would like to see in the larger, worldwide society. With so much diversity, but also such a high level of acceptance, the wheelchair basketball teams try to be an example for what Illinois can be, and what the nation can become.

"When some people see us, they see what we can't do," Frogley said. "But what about what we can do, that is what is so much more important." Since the men's team is also a small, close knit group of athletes, Frogley said that ever team member plays, in every game, including the national championship. This inclusiveness and team effort set the Illinois team apart from others around the nation.

"We really represent where we want to go as a University. Diversity and accepting of difference all coming together," Frogley said. "We recognize the value of each person and the way they can help contribute to our success. It's really a model of how society should work."

photo by melissa silverberg
photos by josh birnbaum



Illinois' Alex Grunstein shoots the ball and scores during the wheelchair basketball game against Campaign Fire. "Today's game was a great test," head coach Mike Frogley said. "To be able to win against that kind of a quality team early in the season bodes well. It's a great way to start the year."

ILLINOIS CLASSIC Tournament

RIC Hornet (W) 60-33

Chicago Pull (W) 67-33

Champaign (W) 70-63

INTERCOLLEGIATE Tournament

Missouri (W) 70-35

Texas Arlington (W) 67-46

Alabama (W) 79-25

EDINBORO Tournament

SW Minnesota (W) 56-35

Edinboro (W) 73-15

WV Whitewater (W) 62-50

FIGHTING ILLINI COLLEGE Challenge

Edinboro (W) 71-33

Edinboro (W) 69-37

NATIONAL Tournament

Missouri (W) 62-38

U. Arizona (W) 70-37

WV Whitewater (W) 67-58

scoreboard

MARCHING TO A DIFFERENT BEAT

the marching illini adjust to university changes

The University of Illinois is well known for many of its traditions and excellent programs. One of these traditions is the great performance and spirit of the Marching Illini marching band. Members of the Marching Illini dedicate a few hours everyday to practice and spend even more time doing so on game days. While the Marching Illini has been a tradition at Illinois nearly since the school opened, one tradition has changed within the last year and is being felt deeply within the band as well as around the University: the absence of Chief Illiniwek. But no matter the changes going on around the world or on campus, Marching Illini continues to perform and make Illinois proud.

Marching Illini is made up of about 350 members from different backgrounds and majors, yet all extremely dedicated to the music and the school spirit they inspire. Freshman Andrew Tamasauskas is majoring in horn performance and music education and plays the mellophone. Tamasauskas said, "We help create a good atmosphere for the team, get fans involved and create a huge home field advantage."

Besides creating an advantage for the sports teams, members of Marching Illini get to be a part of the history and tradition of Illinois. During the halftime performances in the past, the band played the "Three-in-One" while Chief Illiniwek came out and performed his traditional dance. Since the elimination of the Chief as the symbol and mascot of Illinois, Marching Illini was left to deal with the changes. Directors and students in the band chose to continue playing the Three-in-One out of tradition, yet change the steps to eliminate where the Chief once danced.

Emily Divan is a sophomore majoring in music education and plays the piccolo in the band. She said that it was a very strange change and members of Marching Illini were not sure how the fans would react to retaining the Three-in-One. Divan said, "Halftime used to be a celebration with the Chief coming out and dancing. Now it's more of people showing their support. It's hard to realize he's really gone." Tamasauskas agreed, adding that "at first we thought they were booing us, but then we realized the whole stadium was saying 'Chief.'"

Although Chief Illiniwek is gone, Marching Illini continues as a tradition and pride of Illinois. While school spirit and tradition greatly contributing to the University as a whole, members of Marching Illini also gain experience and enjoy all of their hard work. Zach Ahnen plays the mellophone in Marching Illini and is a freshman majoring in aerospace engineering. He said being in the band has helped him adjust to college life. "Everyone in Marching Illini is so outgoing and we spend so much time together, it's not difficult to make friends," Ahnen said.

Fans at Illinois love seeing the Marching Illini play, and for alumni and current students alike, they serve as a bond between old and new. The pride students have in the band is what makes them such an iconic image of what the University is and what it stands for. "We don't get made fun of for being in the band. People really listen when we play," said Tamasauskas. "We have so much support everywhere we go, and it makes playing for the fans that much better."

With or without the Chief, the Marching Illini will play on, encouraging the team, remembering the past and connecting with fans. Although there have been many changes in the past year and band members come and go, the songs and traditions of Illinois remain important and not forgotten.

by melissa silverberg

by brian miller

by claudia gantes

"people really listen

when we play."

» andrew tamasauskas,
marching illini member



The marching Illini performs during quad day. The band played for many events throughout the year.



The marching Illini forms the United States during pre-game. Formations changed during the fall of 2007 to accommodate the loss of the Chief.



Illinois swimmer Meghan Farrell, a senior in AHS, recorded an NCAA provisional time on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2006, against Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio. "She has the second fastest time for the 50 meter freestyle in the Big Ten. That's pretty good," said swimming associate head coach Steve Farnau.

women's swimming and diving

racing toward
success

There are many factors that the women's swimming and diving team cannot control; injuries, the other teams they compete against and the fact that they have not had a home meet in over two and a half years. With the prolonged construction and renovations to –spell it out first – (IMPE), the swimmers and divers of Illinois have constantly been on the road. In spite of not having a home to call their own, having a young team and practicing in shifts and at all different hours, the team is full of hard-working athletes that swim hard for both the love of the sport and their school.

"We can really only focus on ourselves," said Sue Novitsky, the head coach. "But there is a light at the end of the tunnel." That light she is referring to is that fact that next year the Illini will get to host their first home meet in years, a first match up at home for many younger members of the team. Cece Marizu, a sophomore majoring in broadcast journalism called this a year for learning and rebuilding after graduating eight seniors last May.

"I learned that if you are willing to put in the extra effort, anything is possible," Marizu said. "It's really the smaller things that count the most." Whether working on kicks, turns, flips or dives, the team focused on those smaller aspects where they could improve their technique to become more competitive and better overall.

The team's divers traveled to Illinois Wesleyan, nearly an hour away, three times a week to practice on their competitive diving boards, said Nikki Spillone, a sophomore majoring in elementary education. In spite of the many obstacles in the team's way, their spirit and dedication to the sport has not faltered. Coach Novitsky said she does as much as she can to bring the individual swimming and the diving sports together by telling them that they are swimming and competing for something bigger than themselves.

This intense team spirit can also be seen in the fans that have traveled to every away meet for the past few years. Even when at another school's pool, the amount of orange and blue in the stands often adds up to more fans than even the home team, Marizu said.

Finding strength through their fans and through one another, the women's swimming and diving team has learned to work together and encourage and trust one another. "At meets we are the best team on deck supporting each other," Spillone said. "The closeness really makes a difference." She added that usually about half the team loses their voices screaming and cheering for one another.

Although Coach Novitsky called this a rough season, she said she sees great hope for the future of the team. The swimmers and divers represent Illinois in striving to achieve in the classroom, working hard in the pool, caring about one another, and being loyal to their home at Illinois, Novitsky said. "We've been through a lot and overcome it," Spillone said. "Good things are going to start happening."

by melissa silverberg

photos by josh burnbaum

Arizona State 10-12-126
Oakland Toledo 2nd place
Michigan State 10-15-115
Michigan Dual Challenge 2nd place
Illinois State (WV) 2-126
Ohio State Invite 6th place
Notre Dame Inv. Mich 5th place
Iowa State 1-126
PU Men's Inv. 3rd place

10th IIN Tournament

10th place

scoreboard

men's
water polo



Andrew Schneider, senior in business administration, takes a sweep shot from the center position as opposing goalie Benjamin Shantz comes out of the goal for a block. Schneider was rewarded first team all-tournament for his efforts at the Big Ten Tournament.



The Illini men's water polo team cheers on their starters in the moments before the swim-off against the University of Illinois-Chicago. The team won the game, 8-7.

the club team sets new goals as the old are left dead in the water

The Illinois men's water polo team concluded their season with a 10-14 record, capturing sixth place in the Big Ten conference. Andrew Schneider, senior in business administration, supply chain management, led the team in goals from the hole, or center position, concluding the tournament with 10. He was also nominated to first-team all-conference by a committee of Big Ten coaches and officials. Junior in biology Mark Lakis was named second-team all-conference, scoring six goals and concluding the season with a total of 18.

"We worked well together," Lakis said. "Things didn't always go our way, but we continued to work hard and improved our game as a team." The team competed in five other tournaments throughout their season, which occurred from late August through November. The team went 10-14 for the season and 4-10 in the Big Ten, with notable wins over nationally-ranked Slippery Rock (8-7) and Indiana University (11-5).

"We had to find resolution in the end of the season in the fact that we did our best," Adam Greenberg, a sophomore in business administration, supply chain management and the team's goalie said. "I saw improvements from last year to this year among some of the younger players and that will only grow stronger next year." Coached by president and captain Andrew Schneider, the men worked to overcome minimal practice-time to fight for their place in the Big Ten.

"The opening of the IMPE pool will provide us with the type of training that we'll need in order to have a successful season next year," Schneider said. Because of IMPE's reconstruction, pool-time shortages have forced the team to put off conditioning in order to focus on the technique of the game. Lakis said that many team members exercise outside of practice, either by themselves or in small groups, but the team chemistry is hindered and does not produce the same results.

"We put a lot of preparation and optimism into this season," Schneider said. "Although it is frustrating to fall short of our goals, we still had our moments where we played up to our team potential." Utility player and junior in kinesiology and community health Stephan Lalka was a major contributor to the team, finishing the season with 27 goals, seven of which occurred during the Big Ten tournament at Ohio State University. "We had a good combination of leaders and strong role players" Lalka said. "Guys stepped up in key situations and created an exciting team dynamic."

Losing seniors Schneider, Tyler Shimomura, Dan Force, Terry Profita, Brian Woodward, and Noel Gordon, the team will still head into next season with a strong base of returning players. "Water polo pretty much shaped my whole life throughout college," Shimomura, a senior in engineering physics said. "Many of my friends were made through the team; I have spent more time in the polo apartments than I care to think about."

Mark Lakis has high hopes for the returning members, emphasizing the hard work and dedication each player had throughout the past season, as well as the determination they possess to improve upon their sixth-place finish.

"We learn from this year just like every season, and next year we'll continue to improve upon our performance," Lakis said. "We had a good year and we will go undefeated in the off-season."

scoreboard

women's
water polo
a winning season



Senior in animal science Kayley Bateman defends against Purdue hole-set Alaina Matthews during a tournament hosted by the University of Miami-Ohio. The Illini went on to win the game, dominating the Boilemakers, 12-5.

Senior in news-editorial journalism Deni Stritch makes a pass to an open teammate down the pool. Stritch helped captain the team with Megan O'Connell, senior in general engineering.





Freshman and starting goalie Megan Hybinette blocks a shot made by University of Wisconsin-Madison's Val Poulos. Hybinette was the only freshman on the starting line, finishing her rookie season with 208 saves.

Five seniors helped lead the Illini women's water polo team to a third place finish at the 2008 Big Ten tournament. Kayley Bateman, Erin Fox, Megan O'Connell, Deni Stritch and Danielle Urban completed their season with a 5-4 win over the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The tournament was just one highlight on a long road of firsts for the team this season.

During the fall semester, the team traveled to Arizona for the first time, competing at the University of Arizona and ending the trip with three wins and one loss. The positive mentality carried the team into their official season in the spring, as the girls went on to earn a winning record at every weekend tournament they participated in.

"When we met at the beginning of the season, I had the goal to earn a winning record at every tourney," said O'Connell, captain and president of the women's team. "We did that this year and we played great." O'Connell received second team all-Big-Ten honors for her efforts during the Big Ten tournament, scoring 12 goals and earning 33 assists for the season.

The team also succeeded in beating Michigan State University twice during the season. "We have never beat MSU to my knowledge, so twice in one season really shows our growth as a team and as a program," said head coach Drew Schneider.

Losing only three starters, the team will return Alli Luft, junior in kinesiology, Bree Longfield, sophomore in business, Ava Caffarini, sophomore in molecular and cellular biology, and their goalie, Megan Hybinette, freshman in general engineering. Luft led the team in goals for the season with 40. Longfield followed close behind with 30, while Hybinette earned 208 saves in a leading defensive effort.

"The girls may be losing three starters, but they succeeded this season through playing together as a team, and will continue to do so in the future," said Stritch, graduating senior and captain. "We did well this year, which will carry into next year and set the tone."

Stritch received first team all-Big-Ten honors for her play during the Big Ten tournament, scoring 30 goals and earning 61 steals on the season. The 2008 season was marked by more than just the loss of five seniors, as head coach Schneider, a senior in business, graduated as well. "I've played under Schneider for three years, and he has improved as a coach just as we've improved as players," O'Connell said.

Ending their season with an overall record of 21-8, the Illini will definitely have a lot to build upon for next season and they are up for the challenge. "We had a winning year," Longfield said. "Next season, we intend to build on that and win a few more."

deni stritch
deni stritch

MICHIGAN STATE UNIV. Tournament

Notre Dame (L) 4-11
Lindenwood (W) 15-4
Grand Valley (W) 8-5
MSU Alum. (L) 1-6

UNIV. OF MICHIGAN Tournament

Ohio (W) 14-3
Michigan (L) 3-9
Michigan State (W) 7-5
Miami (W) 4-3

UNIV. OF WIS-MAD. Tournament

OC (W) forfeit
Wisconsin B. (W) 17-2
Purdue (W) 8-2
Wisconsin (W) 7-4

UNIV. OF MIAMI-OHIO Tournament

Cal Poly (L) 4-11
Purdue (W) 12-5
Miami (W) 5-3
Michigan State (W) 6-5

IOWA Tournament

Iowa (W) 4-5
Wisconsin (W) 7-5

BIG TEN Tournament

Ohio State (W) 10-5
Wisconsin (W) 6-5
Michigan State (L) 4-5
Wisconsin (W) 5-4

scoreboard

men's

wrestling

striving for national recognition



Illinois' Patrick Bond grapples with Findlay's Dan Stevenson during the wrestling meet at Huff Hall in Champaign, Ill., on Dec. 8. Bond won by technical fall, helping No. 18 Illinois defeat Findlay, 30-10.

"In wrestling you gotta' **completely**
dedicate **YOURSELF** to the **sport** 'cause you're always
watching your **weight**. You can't go
OUT like everyone else does."

» jimmy kennedy, sophomore in engineering

Illinois' Gabe Flores brings down Wisconsin's Collin Cudd during Friday night's match up at Huff Hall, Feb. 8. Flores went on to win the match 4-2, helping Illinois secure the win 24-13.

couch counter coppernold
 spence postlebaum
 brad vest

scoreboard

REPLACING SKATES WITH SNORKELS

unique club sports have sprung up all over campus

Illini basketball and football are two of the most popular sports at the University, but there are 74 other athletic teams on campus, including varsity, intramural and club sports, as well as martial arts.

One of the University's lesser known club sports is underwater hockey, a team sport played with a snorkel and fins on the bottom of a swimming pool. Jennifer Gall, senior in the college of engineering, has been a member of the underwater hockey team since her freshman year and said that one of the sport's most unique features is its three-dimensional play.

"Everybody thinks that you're standing on the bottom with a big hockey stick, when that's just not how it works," Gall said. "The play takes place on the bottom of the pool, but where you are in the water, either breathing at the surface or mid-water, is 3-D. You can really sneak up on people if, you know, you're kind of floatin' above them and they don't realize you're there."

Gall also said that underwater hockey has given her a chance to travel all over the country for tournaments, and she would like to eventually compete at the international level.

"There's a world championship every two years," said Gall. "So, the U.S. generally sends an elite women's team and a masters women's team. The 2010 team is what I'm shooting for."

Another little known athletic team on campus is Illini Table Tennis, the University's competitive ping-pong team.

Each year the players participate in intercollegiate tournaments against other university teams in the region. Table tennis is a sport that requires fast reflexes and the ability to think ahead, said Hongyi Li, graduate student in engineering.

"Using your brain is definitely the important part. There are so many skills, so many abilities; you have to catch up as quickly as possible," Li said. "If you respond slowly, you might lose."

Li also said that the team is open to all students, faculty and staff at the University, and encourages anyone interested in ping-pong to join.

The Illini trap and skeet club is another sport that students may be unfamiliar with. Trap and skeet are shooting sports in which players fire a shotgun in an attempt to break moving clay targets. AJ Wolfe, a junior in engineering, has been trap and skeet shooting since he was 10 years old and said the sport is unique because it's open to all ages.

"You don't have to be real young or real athletic to do it," Wolfe said. "So, I've seen, you know, little kids out shootin', and I've seen guys that are 80-plus shootin' in a wheelchair and still breakin' targets."

Wolfe also said that some club sports, like trap and skeet, may be heard of less often but still share common ground with traditional sports. "You can go out and shoot or you can go play basketball; they're the same type of thing," said Wolfe. "You can be just as competitive at either one."



Members of the under-water hockey club prepare to dive under to begin their game. The majority of the action occurred on the bottom of the pool.

Under-water hockey is played with a heavy ball that rests on the bottom of the pool. The team practiced on Thursdays at Freer Hall.



*"you can be
just as
competitive
at either one."*

» aj wolfe, junior in engineering

women's
soccer

one common goal
breeds success



Illinois' Ella Masar (left) fights through Wisconsin defenders Taryn Farnell (center) and Birdie Leibham during the game at Illinois Soccer and Track Stadium Sunday, Oct. 14, 2007. Illinois shut out Wisconsin 3-0.



Illinois' Chichi Nweke tries to outrun Florida's Shana Hudson during the game at Illinois Soccer Stadium in Champaign on Friday, Sept. 14, 2007. Illinois defeated the No. 9 Gators, 1-0.

The 2007 season proved to have ups and downs for the Illini women's soccer team. Coach Janet Rayfield felt the focus was often on the future instead of the present game or situation. "With most of our players returning we felt like we were in position to have a special season," Rayfield said. Instead, "(We had) a very good season." The team had twelve wins, seven losses and two ties. They finished third in the Big Ten behind Penn State and Purdue.

Forward Ella Masar, senior in the college of applied health sciences, summed up the highs and lows of the season. She said "It was frustratingm but some games we played some amazing soccer."

The players returning from the 2006 season began preparing in the winter, with practices and games. "In any sport your talent can only take you so far. We believe that what takes you the distance is no cutting corners, just simple hard work," Masar said. By the end of September they entered Big Ten play. "We want a championship and being able to train year round provides us the backbone to do that," Masar said.

At the end of the season, after qualifying for the NCAA College Cup, the team beat an accomplished squad from Louisville. The team then battled hard against a Notre Dame team who went on to finish in the top four in the nation. Rayfield was very satisfied about her team's performance against Notre Dame. She said, "(We) just went after winning."

Rayfield believed the team had the greatest will she has ever seen. "The strength of this team was the whole team, the strength, the unity and the collective fight," Illinois' accomplishments on the field were recognized by a large number of post season awards. Masar was elected to Lowe's All-America first team. "It's a dream to be an All-American," Masar said.

Masar, senior defender Mary Therese McDonnell and junior defender Emily Zurrer received All-Great Lakes Region honors from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. Sophomore midfielder Jackie Santcaterina was named to the All Great Lakes second team. Danielle Kot received All-Great Lakes all-freshman honors.

Since there were six seniors, five juniors, six sophomores and six freshman on this year's roster, the even makeup in grade levels should allow the Illini to continue moving forward.

by alissa groeninger
photos by adam babcock
josh burnbaum

Aug. 21:	
Illini - 1	Buffalo - 0
Aug. 30:	
Illini - 1	Missouri - 0
Aug. 31:	
Illini - 1	Missouri - 3
Sept. 2:	
Illini - 5	Xavier - 0
Sept. 7:	
Illini - 2	UCLA - 4
Sept. 9:	
Illini - 4	Cal State Northridge - 0
Sept. 14:	
Illini - 1	Florida - 0
Sept. 21:	
Illini - 2	Kansas - 1
Sept. 23:	
Illini - 3	Indiana State - 0
Sept. 28:	
Illini - 1	Ohio State - 2
Sept. 30:	
Illini - 1	Penn State - 2
Oct. 5:	
Illini - 1	Minnesota - 0
Oct. 7:	
Illini - 6	Iowa - 0
Oct. 12:	
Illini - 0	Northwestern - 0
Oct. 14:	
Illini - 3	Wisconsin - 0
Oct. 19:	
Illini - 3	Indiana - 0
Oct. 21:	
Illini - 1	Purdue - 2
Oct. 26:	
Illini - 2	Michigan - 0
Oct. 28:	
Illini - 1	Michigan State - 0
Nov. 8:	
Illini - 3	Iowa - 1
Nov. 9:	
Illini - 0	Purdue - 3
Nov. 16:	
Illini - 1	Louisville - 0
Nov. 18:	
Illini - 0	Notre Dame - 2

scoreboard



men's
basketball
a satisfying conclusion

Trent Meacham hops over a Michigan player while on defense.



Billingsley
R. Meacham
Michigan
Illinois
Michigan
Michigan



Shaun Pruitt comes down with one of his 7 rebounds during the Illinois game versus Michigan.

The 2007-2008 seasons proved rough for the men's basketball team despite starting the season strong, going 2-1 for a third place finish at the Maui Invitational. A six point loss in overtime to the University of Arizona foreshadowed the season for the Illini, said head coach Bruce Weber. The Illini led the game until the last eight seconds. Losing in the last few minutes was a problem for the Illini, who lost more than ten games in the last two minutes. In 27 of 35 games, the team was leading at halftime. "I think we really lost our confidence, our mojo," Weber said. "When you put all the ingredients in the mixing bowl, it always didn't come out perfectly," Weber said about the team's chemistry.

Although the Illini did not have the winning season they are accustomed to, Weber was impressed with the way his players battled. "Our kids, they kept coming back," he said. He was proud of the team for not giving up when things were turbulent. After losing to Indiana University in double over-time, they traveled to Minnesota five days later and beat the Golden Gophers by over twenty-points. Weber said this speaks to the heart the team had. During the season, Weber and his coaching staff worked hard to motivate the players. They brought in sports psychologists, guest speakers and showed "feel-good" films.

The Illini found the key to success at the Big Ten tournament. They were able to win several close games, defeating Penn State, Purdue, who was ranked seventeenth in the nation at the time, and Minnesota. Although Weber is no stranger to victory in the Big Ten tournament, having coached his players to the championship game three out of his five years at Illinois, it was a welcome surprise to many Illinois fans that the Illini fought their way into the Big Ten championship game. While the team lost the championship game, falling short of earning an automatic NCAA tournament bid, they created an expectation and excitement for next year's team. "It was awesome that we got as far as we did. We obviously have talent... it was awesome that we got to display that in the Big Ten tournament," said Rachel Thomas, junior in history.

At one point during the Purdue game, the Illini featured a line up with four freshmen and junior guard Chester Fraiser. This young line-up got the team back into the game, Weber said. The Big Ten tournament run helped show the younger players how to play together. Weber said the success the team enjoyed will allow them to use the tournament as a stepping stone.

Winning gave the players a taste of success, he said.

"Going to the Big Ten Tournament and having success was great for the players who are returning next year. We actually had the ball bounce our way for once," said freshman player Mike Davis. "We will just need to carry over how hard we played and play with the determination we played with in the tournament to win more close games next year."

Weber hopes the momentum will be a nice jump start for the off-season and the coming years. In order to prepare for next season, the off-season will be very important for the players, Weber said. Between the end of the basketball season and the summer, the team dedicates several hours a day to basketball, as well as time to both weight training and conditioning. In addition to working on basketball, the team spends a lot of time together, Davis said.

"We all like each other, which is a good thing so that will be a big part of how we play together on the court," he added. During the summer the coaches cannot have contact with the team but many of the players stay on campus to work on their skills.

With the emphasis on the future, Weber hopes the players use the frustration of not meeting expectations this year as motivation to work harder and find success in the coming years. "We have higher standards of expectations for our program," he said. His players agree.

"This year was a great learning experience, I'm glad I went through it my freshman year," Davis said. "All the young guys have a year under their belts and don't want to feel how we felt after our season was over and losing so many close games. We are determined to never have the same feeling again."

by: alissa groening
photos by: brad vest

Quincy (W) 80-61
Kentucky Wesleyan (W) 76-39
Northeastern (W) 60-55
Hawaii (W) 79-77
Arizona State (W) 77-54
Duke (L) 79-66
Oklahoma (W) 65-49
Maryland (L) 69-61
Weber State (W) 78-61
Arizona (L) 78-72
Western Carolina (W) 58-35
Miami (L) 61-58
Missouri (W) 59-53
Loyola (W) 77-43
Tennessee State (L) 60-58
Ohio State (L) 74-58
Penn State (L) 68-64
Wisconsin (L) 70-60
Indiana (L) 62-58
Michigan (W) 75-57
Purdue (L) 74-67
Ohio State (L) 64-58
Northwestern (W) 70-37
Michigan State (L) 51-54
Purdue (L) 83-75
Indiana (L) 83-75
Minnesota (W) 84-60
Penn State (L) 52-51
Wisconsin (L) 71-57
Michigan (L) 49-43
Iowa (W) 58-47
Michigan State (L) 59-51
Minnesota (W) 67-58
Penn State (W) 64-63
Purdue (W) 74-67
Minnesota (W) 54-50
Wisconsin (L) 61-48

scoreboard



women's
basketball
working as one

Illinois' Stephanie Chelleen shoots for three points near the end of a game versus Purdue in the Assembly Hall, Mar. 2. Chelleen sealed the Illini's 63-55 win with 4 second-half three pointers.



Illinois' Jenna Smith, right, embraces Stephanie Chelleen, a departing senior, after Illinois' last home game, Mar. 2. Illinois won the game 63-55.



Illinois' Stephanie Chelleen shoots for three points near the end of a late-season game versus Purdue in the Assembly Hall. Chelleen worked with her team to coordinate the win.

Pride over prize. Integrity over individuality. Solidarity over statistics. These are the values at the core of the women's basketball team. For the Lady Illini, their focus is on working together as a team, not setting records or earning personal bests. "I think the strong point of the season was when we finally came together as a team, as a unit," said head coach Jolette Law. "We started working together, more as one, not just as individuals."

The Illini finished the season 20-15 overall, earning ninth in the Big Ten Conference and second in a sudden turnaround in the Big Ten Tournament. Leading scorers for the season were sophomore forward/center Jenna Smith, who averaged 18.3 points, senior guard Rebecca Harris and junior guard Lori Bjork, who averaged 10.1 and 10 points, respectively. Defensively, sophomore forward Lacey Simpson had 118 rebounds while Smith had 225 rebounds and a school record-setting 59 blocked shots. Smith was also named an honorable mention All-American player and the team's Most Valuable Player. Bjork became the 21st Illinois player to score 1,000 career points and Illinois' career leader in three-point field goals.

But these numbers do not really reflect the team, Law said. "I don't get caught up in the records," Law said. "The best part of the season for me was when my players really started to understand me and what I was asking of them, where I was trying to take them." Law said she was trying to take the team to the next level, a place they hadn't been before. Their success in the Big Ten Tournament proved to be just that, as they were the lowest-seeded team to ever reach the Big Ten title game.

"That run in the Big Ten, we competed at the highest level, we fought," Law said. "We just try to show a sense of pride, that integrity, that sense of fight." Law said the team balances its strong competitive edge with strong character.

"These young ladies know how to carry themselves off the court as great students and great people but on the court, they fight and they compete," Law said. Harris agreed that the team has a shared priority of performance and integrity. "Each individual has something to offer, and at any point, any team member is capable of having the ultimate game," Harris said. "But besides being players, these young ladies are lovely people, just a great group of girls to know."

"We just play with such pride and dignity that we represent this University in a first-class manner," Law said. "We're not going to win at all costs, we're going to do things the right way and represent the University in the best way we possibly can."

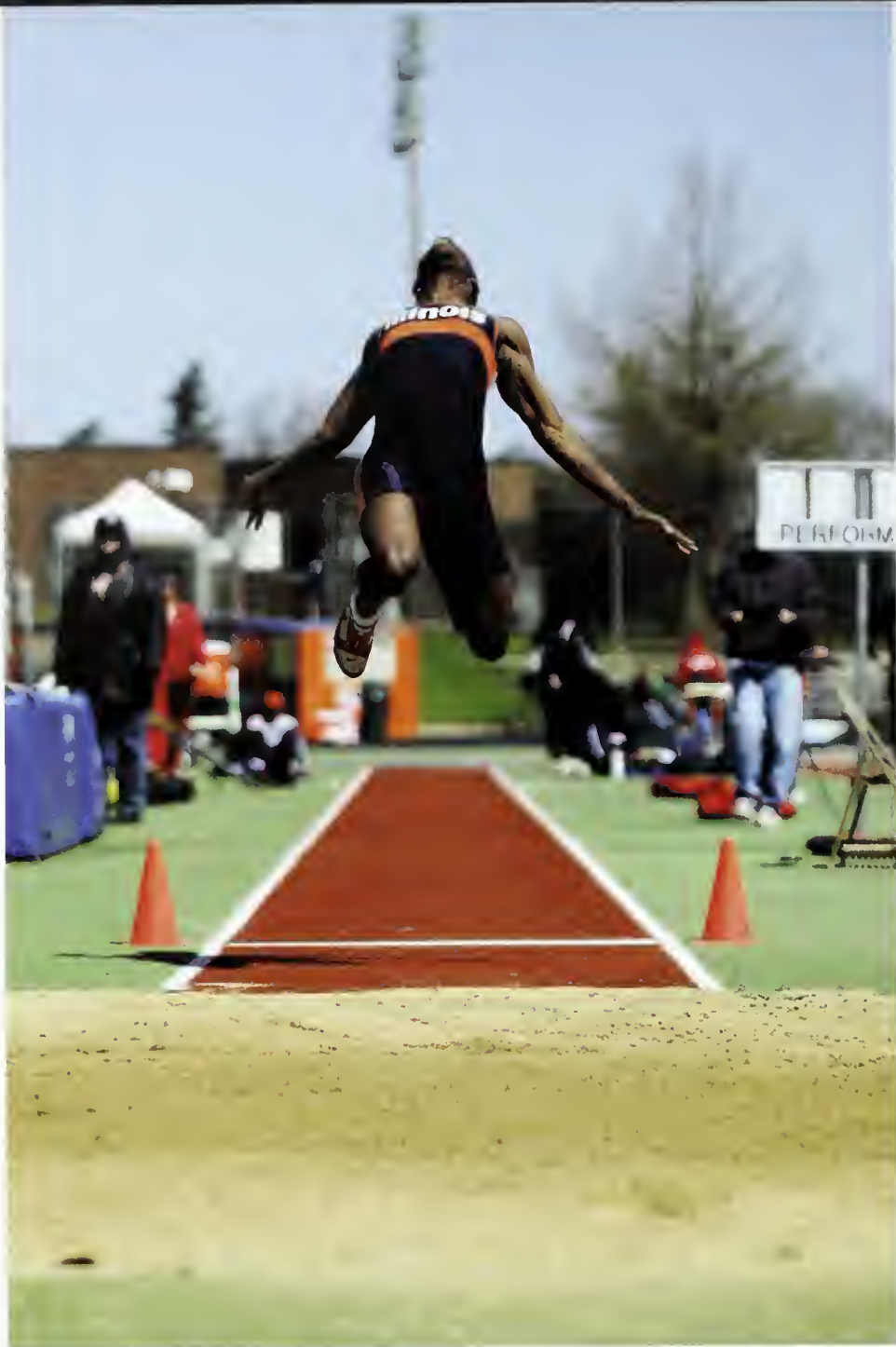
Photo by Amanda Bromberg
Caption by Brad Vest

DTI Exhibition	(W) 68-39
Eastern Illinois	(W) 67-56
UW-Milwaukee	(W) 65-41
UAB	(L) 69-56
Southern Illinois	(W) 63-53
South Carolina	(W) 91-58
Providence	(W) 60-59
North Carolina State	(L) 61-47
Illinois-Chicago	(W) 69-57
Oklahoma	(L) 77-67
Chicago State	(W) 73-46
Missouri	(W) 66-52
Northwestern	(W) 58-44
Wisconsin	(W) 64-54
Penn State	(L) 49-48
Indiana	(L) 70-62
Minnesota	(W) 66-57
Ohio State	(L) 43-42
Iowa	(L) 60-55
Michigan State	(L) 65-62
Purdue	(L) 71-59
Ohio State	(W) 68-64
Michigan	(W) 66-61
Minnesota	(L) 61-56
Indiana	(W) 73-62
Wisconsin	(L) 66-64
Penn State	(W) 69-49
Michigan	(L) 55-52
Michigan State	(L) 54-46
Purdue	(W) 63-55

Big Ten Tournament	
Wisconsin	(W) 73-52
Ohio State	(W) 64-58
Michigan State	(W) 59-41
Purdue	(L) 58-56

National Invitation Tournament	
Drake	(W) 48-44
Milwaukee, Wis.	(L) 64-72

scoreboard



Illinois Azeez Shogbuyi competes in the long jump portion of the Illinois Invitational tournament at the Outdoor Track and Soccer Stadium on April 15. The team ended their season with a seventh place finish in the Big Ten.

men's track and field

hard work pays off

“the image that
 { we strive to *represent*
 for the University
 is to show that we are
 good students, good athletes,
 good people”

» pierre bush, men's track and field

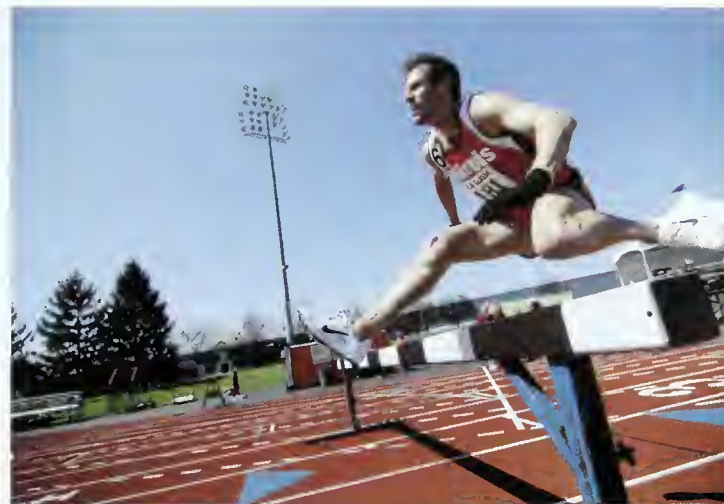
The Fighting Illini offers "a good institution and program, had a team that has won Big Ten Championships, and teammates who get along really well," said Pierre Bush of the men's track and field team. As a part of the men's track team, it can be "stressful since we travel a lot a miss a lot of classes," Bush said. The guys travel six to seven hours for their meets and train for three hours everyday, Monday through Friday. Training includes running up the stairs of Memorial Stadium, speed endurance, weight lifting, and of course, running.

"It's very intense, but the nice thing is that during off season, the summer, its relaxed, though we have to come back two or three weeks before classes start to start training again," Bush said. Unlike high school track, college track is a year-round sport running from August until June, though separated into an indoor and an outdoor season. "It's fun to compete against other top-tier schools and see where you rank nationally," Bush said.

To be a part of the men's track team, student athletes must be just that – students and athletes. "We have to be well-balanced and willing to sacrifice a social life, but be social and handle the responsibility of keeping up with both athletics and academics," Bush said. "The image that we strive to represent for the University is to show we are always striving to be good students, good athletes, and good people."

One of Bush's most memorable moments was during his sophomore year at the Drake Relays, when he was feeling sad about not jumping well. But as he talked with his coach, he said a little kid approached him and asked him for his autograph. "It made me happy when he asked for my autograph; it shows what you mean to the fans of the Illini," Bush said.

The men's track team has had a good start to the season this year. The indoor season began with three wins at the Saluki Fast Start Invitational and ended with the Illini ranking seventh at the Big Ten Indoor Championships, but also accomplishing a few personal bests and breaking a school record: Gakologelwang Masheto won the 400m in 47.23 seconds, and Dominique Worsley broke the school record for the 60m at 6.72 seconds, beating the previous record of 6.73 seconds. They also hosted the Carle/Health Alliance Classic in Champaign and had ten wins against Southern Illinois, Eastern Illinois, Illinois State, Lincoln (Mo.), and DePaul. Their outdoor season began again in Carbondale, where they ranked first against Southern Illinois, Illinois State, Southern Illinois in Edwardsville, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, and Evansville. Pierre Bush said that he and his teammates set goals to qualify for the regional and national championship meets.



Illinois' Jon Houseworth competes in the 3000 meter steeplechase portion of the Illinois Invitational tournament at the Outdoor Track and Soccer Stadium on April 15. The men spent a lot of time traveling throughout the season to compete.

Saluki Fast Start Invitational
1st place

New Balance Invitational 1st place

New Balance Invitational 2nd place

Big Ten Tournament, 1000m 3rd place

SIU Spring Classic 1st place

Big Ten Tournament 1st place

NCAA Championships 1st place

scoreboard

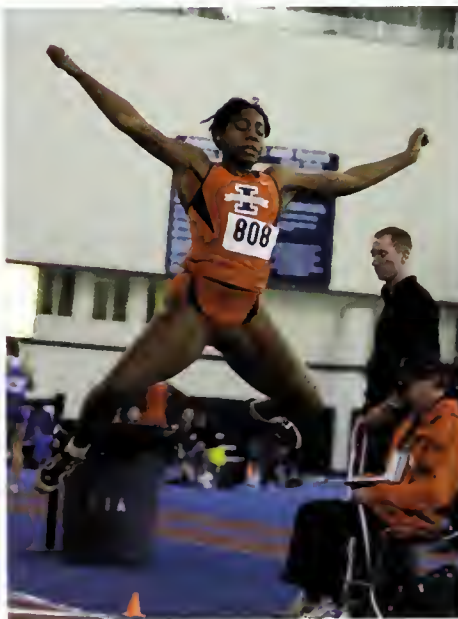
winning becomes tradition

women's track and field



Illinois runners Kate Tysse (left) and Maggie Mulchrone attempt to hang on to eventual winner Terah Cheatham of DePaul during the women's 3000 meter run of the Carle/Health Alliance Classic, Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008 at the Armory. Tysse and Mulchrone finished the race fifth and third respectively.

Illinois Jasmin Clarke performs the long jump during Women's Invitational on Saturday Jan. 19, 2008 at the Armory. Illinois took first place in the overall.



“When the **gun** goes *off*,
 { it's you
 against
 everybody else ”

» gary winckler, head coach



Runners hurdle past fans during the Women's 60 Meter hurdle event for the Women's Invitational on Saturday Jan. 19, 2008 at the Armory. Illinois took first place in the overall.

The Illinois women's track and field team entered the 2007-08 season after losing three of its top-scoring players from the previous year. "We had some really big players last year and we have to fill some gaps this year," said head coach Gary Winckler. "We've got some good seniors, but the majority of athletes on the team are freshmen and sophomores, so we're kind of building for the next year or two."

Undaunted by the challenge, the Illini dominated their first two home meets. At the Illinois Women's Invitational senior Mandy Pintaro set a new personal best by winning the indoor pole vault event with a mark of 12 feet, 7.5 inches. Other first place finishes included junior Omoye Ugiagbe (400m in 56.66 seconds) and the team Danelle Woods, Paris Streeter, Shannon Phelan and Kate Tysse (distance medley relay in 12:19.74).

Then, at the Carle Health Alliance Invitational, Illinois defeated seven other universities, scoring their second first-place finish in less than two weeks. Sophomore Aja Evans took first in the shot put event with a distance of 54 feet, 3.75 inches. Another sophomore, Alecia Beckford-Stewart, won the pentathlon event with 3,838 points, including a new personal best in the long jump (19 feet, 6.75 inches). Both athletes provisionally qualified for the NCAA Championships in May.

"It's sometimes a long year, for freshman particularly, because they probably have trained longer here at the University prior to their first meet than their whole high school season," Winckler said. "But motivation doesn't seem to be too big of an issue for us."

The Illini went on to break several more records throughout the season. On Feb. 16 at the Iowa State Classic, Evans broke the school record and her personal best time in the shot put event with a distance of 54 feet, 8.25 inches. Less than a month later, at the Alex Wilson Invitational in Indiana, the team Angela Bizzarri, Rachel Hernandez, Omoye Ugiagbe, and Danelle Woods set a new school record in the distance medley relay, scoring the sixth-fastest time in the nation by clocking 11:09.09. Following the Illini's sixth place finish at the Big Ten Indoor Championships, seniors LaNeisha Waller and Tiara Armstrong won the 100m hurdles and 100m, respectively, with regional qualifying times at a dual meet in Texas on Mar. 20.

One of the unique aspects of belonging to the women's track team is being able to compete as a team and as an individual, said Armstrong, senior in applied health sciences.

"It's not like football or basketball where it's as a team always," Armstrong said. "It can also be scored individually. So you always have a chance to show your individual talent."

scoreboard

women's
golf



Kristine Cook, a senior in kinesiology, puts ball after ball until she feels comfortable with her short game. The women's golf team had a very successful year.

Kristin Kallergis, a senior in the College of Business, works on her chip shot at practice on the University Golf Course. The Women's Golf team took first place in this year's Illini Spring Classic.



climbing the ranks

There's a significant difference between 108 and 88 ... that is, if you're on the Illinois women's golf team. This past year, the team climbed twenty positions in Division I rankings, a category that holds 234 women's golf teams.

"Prior to my first year, we had finished tenth at the Big Ten Championship. Then last year, we finished sixth. That speaks volumes to the team's commitment if they could improve that much in one year," said Renee Slone, second-year coach.

That pattern has continued into this season. The team's average has improved by 8.32 points, with each individual score decreasing by at least one point. During the fall season, the team's average was 78.7.

The beginning of the season may have started out a bit rocky for the Fighting Illini, with the women placing seventh out of ten at the Mary Fossum Invitational in September. However, as the season continued, they steadily increased their ranks. By October, they had placed second out of thirteen teams in the Shootout at the Legends, and over spring break, they obtained first place out of fifteen teams at the Gainesville Shootout III.

"It takes up a lot of time. We practice twenty hours a week – that's mandatory practice from our coaches. But as individuals, [if] there are certain things that we want to practice – putting or chipping – we draw on our own time to practice, and that may be over twenty hours sometimes," said Seul Ki Park, senior in applied health sciences.

All of that practice and commitment reflects upon the University every time the women's team steps out onto a course. "We know that we represent Illinois, and we're proud to be Illinois golfers," said Kristin Kallergis, senior in business. "I know what I do sets an example for the younger players, so just being able to go out there, have class, make friends, and be kind to everyone else out there gives our school a great name."

Yet even though women's golf is a Fighting Illini team, it is still fairly different from other teams on campus. "Women's golf is one of the smallest teams on any campus. Obviously, with our current team having six players, we are an extremely small team, and they are very close to each other," Slone said.

— Kristin Kallergis
senior in business

Mary Fossum Invitational	7th place
Mary Fossum Invitational	7th place
Early Southern	7th place
Early Northern	7th place
Wildcat Fall Invitational	7th place
Wildcat Fall Invitational	7th place
Wildcat Fall Invitational	7th place
Shootout at the Legends	2nd place
Shootout at the Legends	2nd place
Challenges at Worldman	1st place
Challenges at Worldman	1st place
Gainesville Shootout III	1st place
Gainesville Shootout III	1st place
Gainesville Shootout III	1st place
Sam Houston State	1st place
Sam Houston State	1st place
Sam Houston State	1st place
Illini Spring Classic	1st place
Illini Spring Classic	1st place
Indiana Invitational	1st place
Indiana Invitational	1st place
Early Buckeye Spring	1st place
Early Buckeye Spring	1st place

scoreboard

LIVING HER DREAM

women's soccer star is getting it done, on and off the field

It was in first grade during recess when Emily Zurrer got her first taste of soccer. "I immediately fell in love with it," she said, and then joined her first club team at the age of seven. A native of Canada, Zurrer chose to come to the University because "it just felt right." The coaches, the team and the facilities were influential in her decision to come to Illinois, and she is happy she did. With the hectic combination of athletics and academics, Zurrer explained that "it has always been like that. It has always been a good mixture of both."

During the fall, the players train every day Tuesday thru Thursday and play games on Friday and Sunday. Monday is the one day they have off from soccer. When it comes to keeping up with classes, it can be hard when the players have to miss class due to away games. If needed, there are tutors available to help them. To stay in shape during the off season, the players train Monday thru Friday, lift weights twice a week at 7 a.m., and play a few tournaments, though "our classes need to be scheduled around our training schedule," Zurrer said, which can be an inconvenience.

As far as being an athlete, Zurrer said, "I've definitely grown as a player by training and lifting everyday," and she said her coach is especially helpful. She mentioned that players can always improve upon something, but one of her main goals is to stay focused during their 90 minute games. As a center back, it is "easy to lose focus when the ball doesn't come to the back."

The motto that the players live by is "Honesty, Integrity and Excellence." They are passionate about the image they want to maintain

for the University as well as other schools; as a team, their goal is to win the Big Ten Championship and the National Championship. Zurrer's personal goal is "to be an integral part in leading towards a championship." One of her most memorable moments was during their 2006 game against Penn State. The two teams were the top two in the Big Ten, and the game took place over homecoming weekend, which brought one of their biggest crowds, at 2,500 people. The first half of the game moved slowly, but the girls scored three goals in the second half, winning the game 3-2.

Growing up, Mia Hamm was one of her role models. At the age of 16, Zurrer had the opportunity to play for the Full Canadian Women's National Team and to play against her role model. She said the experience was "surreal."

Majoring in advertising, Zurrer is considering a career working for an athletic company or to go into broadcast journalism, but said that that is something for down the road. "Soccer is such a huge part of my life, I haven't decided what I want to do," Zurrer said. Zurrer is currently focused on her soccer career and said she would love to play for her country. She would also like to join the Women's Professional League, which may be coming back in 2009. "I would prefer to stay here in the U.S. to play, but I would also like to travel," Zurrer said.

{“Soccer
is such a
huge
part of my life.”

» emily zurrer,
varsity women's soccer team

Emily Zurrer, junior
in advertising, is
showcasing her ex-
ceptional talent with
the ball. She provided
the University's team
with a solid defensive
all throughout the
season.



Illinois' Emily Zurrer
heads the ball with
a Missouri defender
during the game at Il-
linois Soccer Stadium
in Champaign on
Friday, Aug. 31, 2007.
No. 20 Illinois lost to
Missouri, 3-1.



Men's

tennis

talent and team
breed excellence



Illinois' Marc Spicjanic returns the ball at the March 12 match against TCU. The men's tennis team won the match, 5-2.



Illinois quarterbacks Juice Williams and Phil Haig celebrate their exhibition tennis victory over offensive linemen Jack Cornell and Eric Block during a Men's Tennis match at Atkins Tennis Center on Jan. 25. The exhibition match bred inter-team support for Illinois sports.

The men's tennis team has had much success in their last few seasons, and expects even more to come this fall. Past seniors who play professionally have gotten even better as well. Kevin Anderson, 2006 NCAA Doubles Champion, went on to be ranked within the top 100 players. The head coach, Brad Dancer, said that this season has been pretty resilient too. "We continue with a bright future, I am very excited about the new team which will form with the freshmen coming in the fall," Dancer said.

Brad Dancer has been the head coach for the last three years, and assistant coach four years before that. He recruits players by tracking their game in seventh or eighth grade and spotting the best players from around the world. This year's team has practiced hard and represent themselves and the University with class, and should have some All-American players.

The students are trained physically, mentally, technically and even tactically on a one-and-one basis as well as in team practices. But the best part about this team is the mentorship the head coach offers. Dancer sees to it that his students average a high GPA, and the program also makes study hall mandatory where they had time to concentrate on their coursework. "We are definitely a premier college program in this country, and we have a great team and a great coach," said Ruben Gonzalves, a senior in sports management. "The entire team is like so close-knit together; you'd think they are my brothers!" Gonzalves has played in the U.S. Open and Australian Open Junior championships and is headed for a lower level entry in the professional field starting this June-July.

On the other hand, Abraham Judson Souza, better known as Abe, is a freshman who was spotted by Dancer when he was just 16 years old. After seeing his talent in tournaments, he received an offer letter which he accepted a year in advance and committed to the University last fall. Abe plans on majoring in pre-law and has to put in a lot of hard work. "It's not easy, juggling tennis, school, and social life. But study hall helps a lot. And I wouldn't give up this opportunity for anything at all," he said.

With his guidance and mentoring, Coach Dancer and his players have built a team of strong, accomplished athletes the University is proud of.

by pragni sanghvi
photos by jeremy berg
pat travlor

Bali State (W) 7-0
Virginia (L) 4-3
Drake (W) 4-3
Tennessee (L) 4-3
LSU (W) 6-1
USC (L) 4-1
Boise State (W) 4-3
Washington (W) 4-1
Florida (L) 6-1
Michigan State (W) 6-1
Notre Dame (W) 6-1
Purdue (W) 7-0
TCU (W) 5-2
Pepperdine (L) 4-3
Northwestern (W) 7-0
Wisconsin (L) 5-2
Kentucky (W) 4-2
Penn State (W) 5-2
Michigan (W) 5-2
Ohio State (L) 5-2
Indiana (W) 5-2
Minnesota (W) 5-2
Iowa (W) 7-0

BIG TEN Championships
Indiana (W) 4-0
Wisconsin (W) 4-1
Ohio State (L) 4-3

scoreboard

women's

tennis

determined success



Kristina Minor, sophomore in psychology, sets up for her serve in a game against Western Michigan University. The women's tennis team displayed yet another solid season.

Shivani Davé, junior in finance and freshman Marisa Lambropoulos react after finishing a game against DePaul University. The Illinois women's tennis team defeated DePaul, 6-1, Feb. 8.



Redshirt freshman, Leigh Finnegan returns a shot in a match against DePaul University. The Illinois women's tennis team defeated DePaul 6-1 at the Atkins Tennis Center in Champaign, IL

After experiencing a first-round defeat against Minnesota, 4-0, in the 2007 Big Ten Championships, the Illinois women's tennis team kicked off the 2007-08 season determined to move up in the rankings.

The Illini traveled to tournaments around the nation. Starting off strong, the team earned 12 singles and seven doubles wins at the Deacon Classic in North Carolina. Seniors Momei Qu and Alejandra MezaCuadra contributed five singles wins to the team total, while freshman Annie McCarthy won two of her three singles matches and scored three doubles wins with partners MezaCuadra and junior Shivani Davé.

Throughout the rest of the fall semester, the team continued to have success at the Hoosier Classic in Indiana, and the Harvard Invitational in Massachusetts. Between these two tournaments, the Illini earned an additional 23 singles wins and 13 doubles wins. "Our biggest strength is our team chemistry," said Dasso. "You spend so much time together that you've gotta' enjoy each others' company and respect each other."

Megan Fudge, sophomore in applied health sciences, was recruited by the women's tennis team from abroad and said that, "Honestly, our team's really, really tight. It's like a little family," Fudge said. "I'm from Germany and it's so far away and I don't get to talk to my parents much, but just having all these close friends that you see every day, and they're just there for you, is amazing."

Following a pair of victories over Florida Atlantic University, 7-0, and Marquette, 5-2, the Illini lost their momentum and suffered three consecutive losses to No.63 Western Michigan, No.22 University of Tennessee, and No.21 Florida State University. Quickly rallying, the team experienced several ups and downs throughout the semester as it battled through a series of tough opponents, including the No.1-ranked Northwestern. The Illini's hard work paid off, however, and the team managed to climb ten places up the national ranks to No.58.

Contributing to the Illini's success was the return of redshirt freshman Leigh Finnegan, who had been unable to compete during the previous spring semester due to a foot injury.

"Finnegan has just a great game," said Dasso. "She was injured all last year and that has been one of the biggest surprises, that she's been able to play in every match we've had this season. And then she's gotten better and better and gained more confidence all year." In one of their last meets of the season, the Illini upset No.31 Ohio State, 5-2, placing the team's overall record at 9-9.

by Courtney Copennoll
photos by Mark Cowan

Florida Atlantic (W) 7-0
Marquette (W) 5-2
Western Michigan (L) 4-3
Tennessee (L) 6-1
Florida State (L) 7-0
DePaul (W) 6-1
Kansas (W) 5-2
Washington (L) 4-3
Purdue (W) 4-3
Notre Dame (L) 6-1
Princeton (L) 4-3
Michigan State (W) 4-3
Wisconsin (W) 6-1
Northwestern (L) 7-0
Michigan (L) 5-2
Penn State (W) 4-3
Indiana (L) 4-3
Ohio State (W) 5-2
Minnesota (W) 4-3
Iowa (W) 6-1

BIG TEN Tournament
Ohio State (W) 4-3
Northwestern (L) 4-0

scoreboard

men's
baseball

hitting home



Lars Davis steals
second base as a
Minnesota player
jumps to dodge him



Aaron Martin pitches from the mound during an Illinois baseball game against Greenville

The Illini men's baseball team began their 2008 season with a win, 6-4, against Sam Houston State at the Al Ogletree Classic. The Illini ended the Al Ogletree Classic with a loss, 2-1, against Texas State, but picked up another win against Lamar. Early in the season, the Fighting Illini played good offense, but fell short during their games against No. 22 Baylor, 20-6, Stephen F. Austin, 8-7, and University of Illinois in Chicago, 7-4. But the guys fought back on their spring trip to the IMG Academies and won five of their seven games in eight days against Eastern Kentucky, 8-6; Akron, 15-11; Maryland-Baltimore County, 5-0; Kansas, 11-9; and a split against Central Connecticut State, losing the first game, 8-7, and winning the second, 5-4.

The guys also enjoyed a victory in their first game against another Big Ten school, Michigan State, 9-5. Another memorable win for the Illini was their seventh consecutive victory, 5-2, over Southern Illinois University. The Illini won the Series against both Indiana, 18-8, and Minnesota, 9-7, but lost against No. 23 Michigan, 7-4, in the Big Ten games.

The players train during their off-season for six days a week, with two four hour practices a day. "We condition every other day at Memorial Stadium, and begin practicing two times a week in January. We are always striving to make ourselves better to compete," Ty Milner said, who joined the Fighting Illini as a walk-on.

Center fielder Kyle Hudson and shortstop, Brandon Wikoff, each received the honor of being named to the QTI Baylor Classic All-Tournament team. First baseman Ryan Hastings was also honored as one of the ten semi-finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Awards (Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School), which is an award that recognizes a senior student-athlete in NCAA Division I baseball. "It is an honor to be able to wear the orange and blue. I love competition and being able to play for the University of Illinois has been a privilege and an experience I will always treasure," said Hastings. Those considered for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Awards must meet the criteria of classroom, character, community, and competition. Second baseman Joe Bonadonna was named to the National All-Star Lineup due to a career year with hitting .366 with forty-five hits, twenty-nine runs, seven doubles, twenty-three RBIs and nineteen steals. Their recognition is much deserved for their talents.

Coach: Scott

Manager: Josh Timbaum

David Lai

Sam Houston State (W) 6-4
Texas State (L) 2-1
Lamar (W) 1-0
Baylor (L) 0-6
Stephen F. Austin (L) 8-7
Illinois Chicago (L) 7-4
Eastern Kentucky (W) 6-6
Miami (OH) (L) 9-4
Akron (W) 15-11
UMBC (W) 5-0
Kansas (W) 11-9
Central Conn. State (L) 8-7
Central Conn. State (W) 5-4
Judson (W) 15-5
Indiana State (W) 15-4
Michigan State (W) 9-5
Michigan State (W) 2-0
Michigan State (W) 5-3
Michigan State (L) 3-2
Southern Illinois (W) 3-2
Saint Louis (W) 9-7

scoreboard

women's
softball



Angelena Mexicano
is a senior in advertis-
ing, SS in the team
giving all to the team.
The women's softball
team finished the
season with another
solid performance.



The women's softball team warms up before an alumni game earlier this fall. The alumni game held this year was a success as it served as a pre-season scrimmage for the team.

cracking records out of the park

"We are always try to show our passion and pride in representing the University" said Hope Howell of the women's softball team. The girls began their season in Tampa, Fla., with a win against the Memphis Tigers (8-5) and a loss against the University of South Florida Bulls (3-0).

They also had a win against the No. 6 UCLA Bruins (6-2), having their first win against a ranked team. "You always need to bring your A-game, there is no room for error" Howell said, "the caliber of play is much higher from high school, and the pitching is also much faster." The girls have proved that their passion has taken them far this season, The Illini won their fifth consecutive game in a tournament in Boca Raton, Fla., and shortstop Angelena Mexicano broke the school record by hitting her thirty-fourth career home run. Mexicano also broke the school's record for home runs hit in a single season by hitting her seventeenth at home against the Minnesota Golden Gophers. Another noteworthy moment for the season was for Claire DeVreese as she pitched a career-high of striking out 11 batters against No. 18 Louisiana-Lafayette.

With much of their time spent traveling, Howell explained she knew she would "be spending more time with her teammates and coach than in class" when playing for the Fighting Illini. "It's a really big commitment, and you learn to manage your time much better" Howell said. The girls are training all year-round. "Training is demanding, it requires a 100 percent effort," Howell said, "We train for nine months, for only three months of play, but you have to believe that all of your hard work will help you in the end." She also explained that "you also have to govern yourself over the summer since there is no required training schedule, but staying in shape helps your performance."

The women's softball team worked hard together for their record this season of 25-24 and 4-8 in the Big Ten. The girls also lean on each other for support during games as well. "I made an error at Ohio State when they scored three runs, and Lana Armstrong came up to me and said it'd be ok," Howell said. "It's good to know that your teammates always have your back." There is good comradeship amongst the girls on the team, which proves that a team can work hard and play hard together.

CHICAGO AND FAULT CLASSIC

Valparaiso (W) 8-2

Olivet Nazarene (W) 9-4

DePaul (W) 12-2

Northern Iowa (L) 4-1

USE WILSON Tournament

Memphis (W) 8-5

USE (L) 3-0

Bethune Cookman (W) 9-1

Florida (L) 3-2

LOUISVILLE SLUGGER Desert

Cal poly (W) 3-0

UNLV (L) 5-2

Oklahoma (L) 3-1

UCLA (W) 6-2

GOLDEN PANTHER Invitational

Alabama (L) 6-0

Connecticut (W) 8-0

Alabama (W) 7-6

MIKEN Classic

Rutgers (W) 11-1

Central Michigan (W) 7-1

Bethune Cookman (W) 8-0

Florida Atlantic (W) 4-0

AGGIE Classic

BYU (L) 0-0

BYU (W) 4-1

Owens A&M (L) 3-1

Lamar University (L) 4-1

HUD GLEMAN Classic

New Mexico (L) 5-3

Arizona State (L) 2-2

Fresno State (L) 9-8

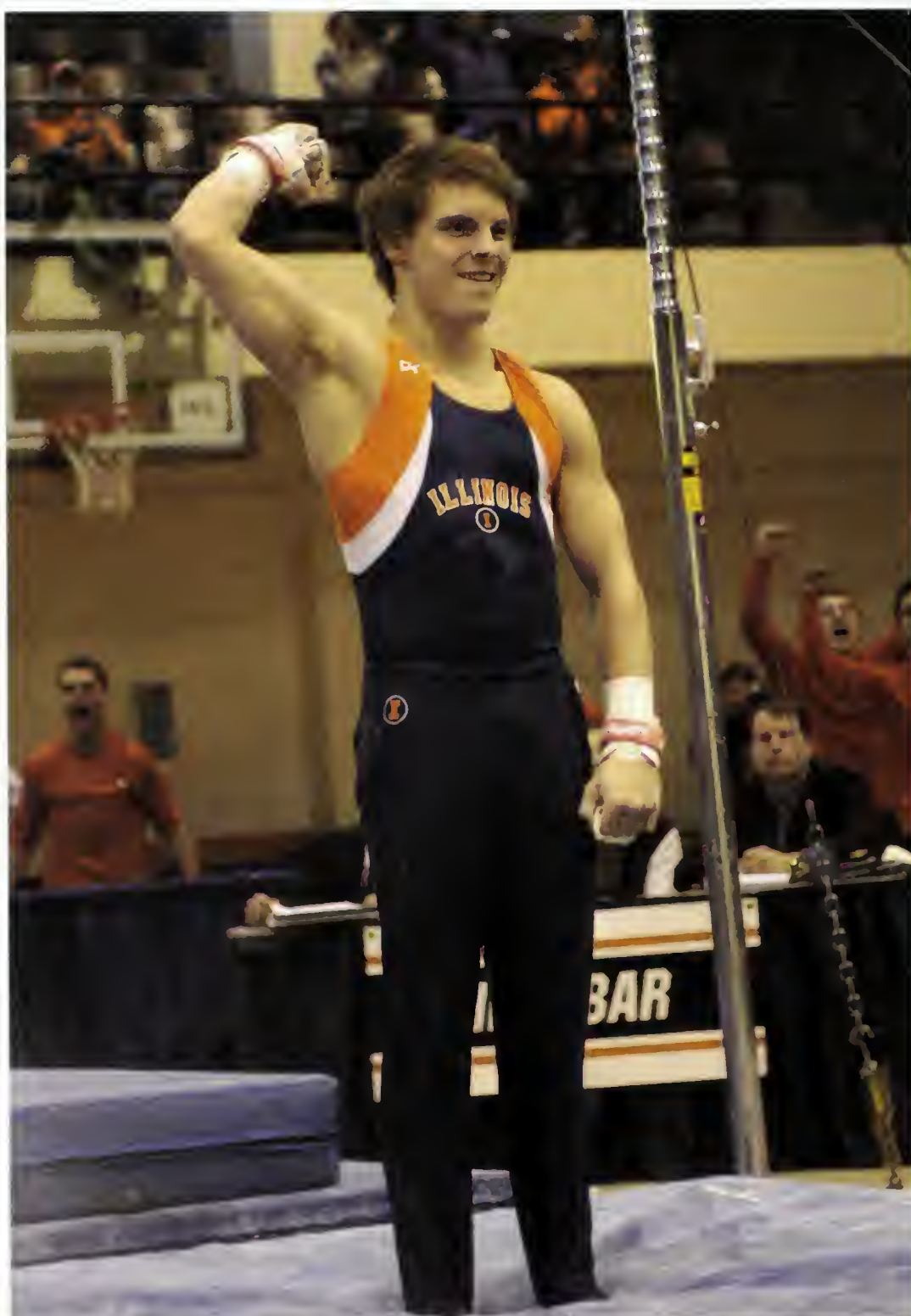
Utah (L) 3-1

scoreboard

men's
gymnastics

sticking with it

Chris Silcox, senior in Theatre, reacts after successfully finishing his routine against Michigan. The men's gymnastics team posted one of the best seasons to quality into the NCAA Super Six.





Jon Drollinger, senior in sociology competes in the Illinois men's and women's gymnastics teams exhibition match at Huff Gym in Champaign, IL December 8. The men's team ended their season with a successful second place big ten finish.

A group of guy friends joke around, talking about their day and sharing stories. But then suddenly one of the boys is performing on the rings, holding his body up and flipping it around as his friends, who are actually his teammates, cheer from the sidelines like this is the national championship. At every practice and at any moment, that perfectly describes the Illini men's gymnastics team: A group of friends and athletes, supporting each other no matter what.

With a tradition of excellence long linked to the sport, the Illinois men's gymnastics team lived up to and even surpassed some expectations during their successful 2008 season. Finishing second place in the Big Ten competition, gymnast Daniel Ribeiro, freshman in the college of business said he feels they could have taken home the title. The men's team finished the 2008 season ranked fifth in the nation.

Even with their talent, the men still get nervous in front of the judges and crowds. The gymnasts run through their routines a number of times to make sure they are both comfortable and confident before performing before the judges, said head coach Yoshi Hayasaki, when preparing for an important meet like Big Tens or the Regional competition. "Everyone on the team has their own agenda, their own mission," Hayasaki said.

Yet in spite of those individual missions, the men work together toward the team goal of winning a Big Ten Championship and eventually a NCAA Championship. Spending so much time together has built strong bonds between teammates, too. "It's one of the reasons I decided to come here," Ribeiro said. "It's like a family, I have 19 brothers." Not only is the men's gymnastics team close with their own teammates, but also the women's team, whom they share the gym with during practice and some competitions.

With nearly 1,000 fans to cheer on the Illini at nearly every meet, Hayasaki said it is a "very exciting, fun atmosphere" to compete in. However, since gymnastics is a sport that is also very entertaining, Coach Hayasaki said sometimes the team performs better away from the screaming crowds, no matter how supportive they may be. One important figure contributing to the team's success is their assistant head coach, former teammate, and possible Olympian, Justin Spring. Spring helps coach during practices and meets, bringing his years of gymnastics experience to the Illinois gymnasium.

"He has competitive experience at the highest level," Hayasaki said. "He has competed against, trained with, and beaten some of the best of the best. He brings that experience to the team." Learning from the best, training together as a group and building important team skills culminated in a successful season for the team and individual athletes at the NCAA competition in April. Freshman Paul Ruggeri won the national championship in the high bar event of the competition, making him the first Illinois national champion since Justin Spring won the title in 2006. As a team, the Illini finished first in the Big Ten and third in the NCAA competition. After a year full of success and hard work, many younger members of the team will return next year hoping to improve on their already fantastic record, while enjoying another year of dedicated guidance from their coaches. In April, Coach Hayasaki announced that after the 2008-2009 season he will be retiring as head coach after 33 years of coaching at Illinois.

World City Meet	1st
Minnesota	1st 34.500 34.400
Ohio State	2nd 33.650 34.500
Penn State	3rd 33.000 34.500
Michigan	4th 32.500 34.500
Iowa	5th 32.000 34.500
Wisconsin	6th 31.500 34.500
Illinois	7th 31.000 34.500
Arizona	8th 30.500 34.500
Big Ten Championship	2nd place
NCAA Championship	3rd place

scoreboard

women's
gymnastics

reaching new heights



Illinois' Jule Crall performs on the uneven bars during the Illinois gymnastics Mixed Pairs Exhibition at Hutt Hall, Friday, Dec. 7. Crall worked hard throughout the season, helping the team to post a third place finish at the NCA South Central Regional.

Flipping upside down and somersaults in mid air, ending with a bang are all just everyday occurrences for members of the women's gymnastics team. From every running start, to every giant leap, to every salute to the judges at the end of great routine, the Illini gymnasts execute each move carefully and with excellent precision.

The team finished the 2008 season ranked higher than any other women's gymnastics team in Illinois' history, 15th in the nation. Two girls, Allison Buckley and Nicole "Suki" Cowart went on to compete at the NCAA championship in April. Overall, the team placed second at the Big Ten competition, higher than any previous team.

"This year we've had our most talented team," said Bob Starkell, head coach of the women's team. "We have also had an opportunity to compete against some of the best teams in the country."

Starkell added that he thinks gymnastics is one of the most difficult sports in the NCAA, and there is also an entertainment factor to it. "Although we started the season off slow, we picked up speed along the way," Starkell said. "We really started peaking at just the right time."

Along with all of the hard work came a great deal of success. "I'm really proud of what we've done this year," said Nicole Cowart, sophomore in the college of business. "We worked really hard, stuck with it, and really came together as a team."

Aside from working together as a team in the gym, Cowart said the girls all also live together and are best friends with one another. The team does their best to not be competitive against one another, but rather to cheer each other on and enjoy the successes of their teammates, Cowart said.

While Cowart and Buckley practiced as the only two girls going onto the national championship, the rest of the team continued to come into the gym, work out, and support their friends practicing the routines. Although women's gymnastics did not make it as a team to the national championship, Coach Starkell said that is a definite goal for next season.

Having fans there to cheer on the team is also helpful for the team to be successful. "We would love to have a lot of people there, screaming and being loud," said Allison Buckley, freshman in kinesiology. "That's the best part, knowing people are there cheering you on." Those fans may be even more influential during the 2009 season when Illinois will be hosting the Big Ten tournament, and Buckley said they hope to win it on their home turf.

Between practicing throughout the year, adjusting to college life, traveling around the country for competitions, and going to class, Illinois gymnasts have incredibly busy lives. Working hard, playing hard and practicing hard all paid off during the 2008 season for the women's team. Teammates are not just teammates and not just friends, but family. With more to look forward to in the future and with a group of young talented athletes, the future looks bright. "We are all just one big family," Buckley said. "I haven't seen another team like Illinois."



Illinois' Nicole Cowart performs a floor routine during the coed gymnastics meet on Feb. 16th. The women's team earned a second place finish in the Big Ten.

Team	Score
Illinois	198.100
Ohio State	197.800
Michigan State	197.600
Northwestern	197.400
Wisconsin	197.200
Nebraska	197.000
Minnesota	196.800
Indiana	196.600
Michigan	196.400
Illinois State	196.200
North Carolina	196.000
Georgia Tech	195.800
Florida	195.600
Alabama	195.400
Arkansas	195.200
Mississippi State	195.000
South Carolina	194.800
West Virginia	194.600
Kentucky	194.400
Tennessee	194.200
Georgia	194.000
Florida State	193.800
South Florida	193.600
Virginia Tech	193.400
Wake Forest	193.200
Duke	193.000
Stanford	192.800
Harvard	192.600
Yale	192.400
Princeton	192.200
Cornell	192.000
Brown	191.800
MIT	191.600
UCLA	191.400
Caltech	191.200
UC Berkeley	191.000
Penn State	190.800
Notre Dame	190.600
USC	190.400
Arizona	190.200
Arizona State	190.000
UCLA	189.800
Caltech	189.600
UC Berkeley	189.400
Penn State	189.200
Notre Dame	189.000
USC	188.800
Arizona	188.600
Arizona State	188.400
UCLA	188.200
Caltech	188.000
UC Berkeley	187.800
Penn State	187.600
Notre Dame	187.400
USC	187.200
Arizona	187.000
Arizona State	186.800
UCLA	186.600
Caltech	186.400
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Notre Dame	101.000
USC	100.800
Arizona	100.600
Arizona State	100.400
UCLA	100.200
Caltech	100.000

the
fighting
illini team photos



cheerleading

front row: Katie Lowry, Katie Harden, Heather Mahashek, Tennille Waggoner, Natalie Keable, Kristine Rine, Anne Fennell, Morgan Martin **second row:** Shaela Elsasser, Jessica Sennett, Tori Davis, Jessica Brown, Cara Gallagher, Ashley Cruz, Peyton Roytek, Cassie Golden **back row:** John Polivka, Sean Kline, David Plumley, Drew Sullivan, Dean Ordzowialy, Jamie Ellis, Time Murrey, Myles Young, Jimmy Winters.

front row: Amy Starinieri, Bailey Behrens, Angelena Mexicano, Brooke Buzard, Beca Ramey, Ashley Conrad, Danielle Zymkowitz, Hope Howell **second row:** Katrina Ross, Ashley Wright, Audrey Gallien, Katie Gaitros, Makenzie Smith, Lana Armstrong, Danielle Vaji, Hollie Pinchback, Sarah Bryers **back row:** Terri Sullivan, Donna DiBiase, Vicky Brown, Taylor Call, Shanna Diller, Claire DeVreese, Christine Christopoulos, Jimm Hubble.

women's softball





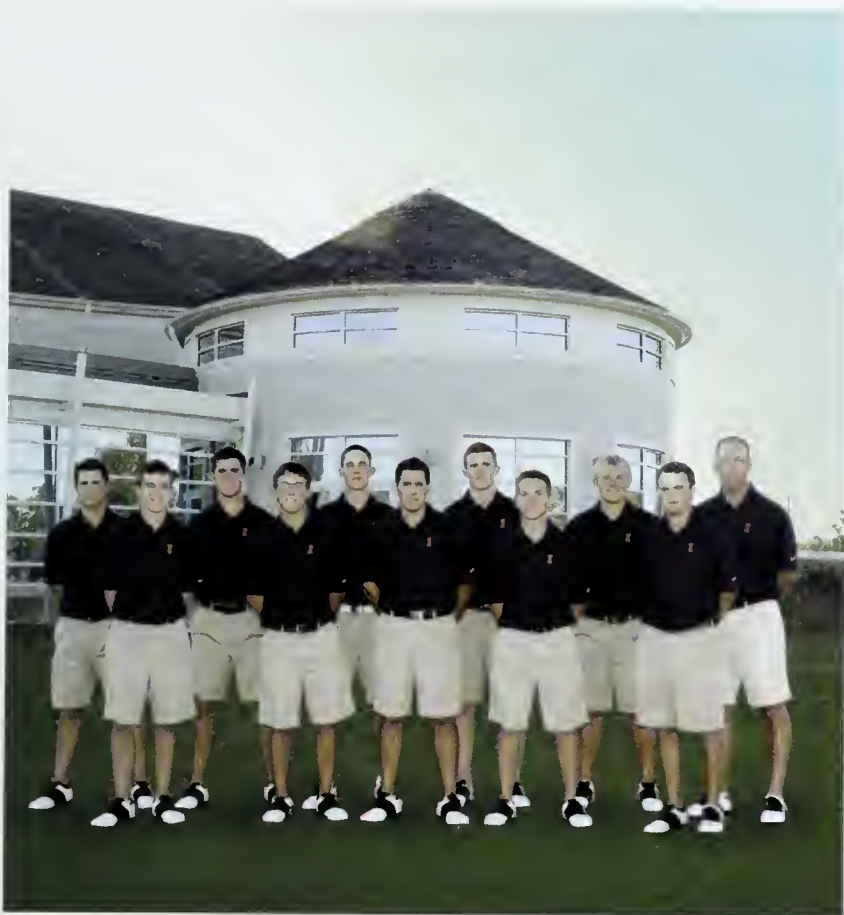
front row: athletic trainer Al Martindale, Jett Jordan, Calvin Brock, Demetri McCamey, Chris Hicks, Steve Holdren, Chester Frazier, Trent Meacham, strength & conditioning coach Jimmy Price back row: assistant coach Jerrance Howard, assistant to the head coach Gary Nottingham, video coordinator Jeremy Izzo, Rodney Alexander, Brian Randle, Shaun Pruitt, Brian Carlwell, Mike Tisdale, Richard Semrau, Bill Cole, Mike Davis, Head Coach Bruce Weber, assistant coach Wayne McClain, assistant coach Jay Price

men's basketball



women's basketball

front row: assistant to the head coach Diane Hobbs, assistant coach Patrick Klein, assistant coach Karen Middleton, Head Coach Jolette Law, assistant coach Tamika Louis, athletic trainer Paul Schmidt back row: Rebecca Harris, Chelsea Buber, Chelsea Gordon, Stephanie Challeen, Audrey Tabon, Erin McCarthy, Jenna Smith, Danyel Crutcher, Lacey Simpson, Lori Bjork, Lydia McCarty



front row: Matt Hoffman, Scott Langley, Jon Krick, Zach Barlow, Chris DeForest, Frank Alafoginis, Larry Blatt, Andy Shiels, Clayton Parkhill, Mark Ogren, Head Coach Mike Small.

men's golf



women's golf

front row: Nancy Featherstone, Stephanie Mory, Seul Ki Park, Raquel Hopton, Casey Burden, Kristin Kallergis, Kristine Cook.



front row: Kyle Moe, Nate Luketin, Daniel Ribiero, Johnny Schell, Paul Ruggeri **second row:** Brian Liscovitz, Andres Saavedra, Nick Stango, Brian Hulbert **third row:** Roger Pasek, Chad Wiest, Kyle Padera, Luke Stannard **back row:** Tyler Williamson, Ross Bradley, Michael Boyer, Tyler Yamauchi, Wes Haagensen, Jon Drollinger, Chris Lung, Chris Silcox

men's gymnastics



women's gymnastics

front row: Samantha Perino, Kim Kruk, Sarah Schmidt, Allison Buckner, Julie Crawford, Nicole Cowart, Melissa Fernandez, Lindsey Smith, Laura Wood, Lashlee Morris, Marika Bottorner, Krystal Melarek, Michelle McGrady



front row: Caroline McKiddy, Jordan Hilbrands, Shannon McDonnell, Jessica Levitt, Ella Masar, Courtney Bell, Kristy Weeks, Marti Desjarlais, Brittany Garrett, Ebony Jones **second row:** Marcia McDermott, Chichi Nweke, Christina Sahly, Jamie Alvis, Charlotte Cooke, Mary Therese McDonnell, Cory Steigerwald, Danielle Kot, Kara Gostisha, Billy Barnes **back row:** Steve Oldenburg, Jackie Santacaterina, Emily Zurrer, Emily Pickard, Alex Kapicka, Lindsey Carstens, Krystin Miller, Laura Knutson, Leisha Alcia, Janet Rayfield.

women's soccer



women's swimming & diving

front row: Meghan Bradley, Amy Forsberg, Kyla Bachtell, Morgan Gilman, Kasey Madden, Mary Johnston, Ali Keehn, Abbey Bernardo **second row:** Jen Ivarson, Rebecca DeSalle, Anna Johnson, Sara Stoneburg, Amy Johnson, Katie Therissen, Kellie Stevens, Ann Miller **third row:** Nikki Spillone, CeCe Marizu, Kelly Smithwick, Mallory Craft, Lindsey Shirley, Marissa Clapp, Kristen Kloeckener, Corey Kasten **back row:** Head Coach Sue Novitsky, Diving Coach Chris Waters, associate head coach Steve Farnau, Meghan Mason, Lauren Frendreis, Courtney Spivak.



front row: Alec Nickolls, Azeez Shogbuyi, Scott Phelps, Scott Puhse, Dominique Worsley, Cody Wisslead, Aaron Mathis, Josh Harks, Alex Baldwin, Will Shaelter, Andrew Jacobi, Ethan Wolff **second row:** Head Coach Wayne Angel, assistant coach Mike Turk, Tim Jung, Durrell Williams, Noble Schermerhorn, Pierre Bush, Jeremy Stevens, Matt Ragusa, Tim Maier, Jon Popejoy, Alex Genseal, Eric Johannigmeier, Gakologelwang Masheto, assistant coach Wendel McRaven **third row:** Bernard Gajos, Maxwell Mkwazalamba, Brian Beard, Paul Johnson, Sean Muldoon, Ken Klein, Mike Kelley, Jacob Nachel, Greg Shroka, Dan Kremske, Justin Aronson, Garrett Weaver, athletic trainer Les Mitkos **fourth row:** Eugene Ellis, Jared Richardson, Frederick Jackson, Nick Brown, Rob Pykosz, Gary Miller, John Adamczyk, Stanley Asie, Andrew Zollner, Wisdom Onyegbule, Mike Murray, Andy Ward, Tim Entwistle, Trent Hoerr **back row:** Chad Gridley, Travis Leonard, Casey Fannesbeck, Matt McHugh, Dan Jones, Josh Gist, Ryne Beeson

men's track



men's cross country

front row: Eric Johannigmeier, Alec Nickolls, Noble Schermerhorn, Tim Jung, Jeremy Stevens, Tim Maier, Justin Smith, Garrett Weaver, Jon Popejoy **back row:** Head Coach Wendel McRaven, Jacob Nachel, Dan Kremske, Trent Hoerr, Mike Murray, Tim Entwistle, Jared Richardson, Michael Kelley, Rob Pykosz, assistant coach Andy Derks



front row: Martin Smith, Matthew Lee, Zach Miksanek, Jake Beechy, Serge Urakhchin, Dan Manzella, John Deneen, Dalton Mullard, Zeke Rowan, Grant Paswall, Ryan Prater, Vince Vercelli **second row:** Joe Barczak, Andrew Lukanich, Jake Kimberlin, Adam Domanico, Clint Arlis, Mike Poeta, Gabe Flores, Jimmy Kennedy, Troy Tirapelle, Dan Zeman, Sean Reynolds, Joey Kotowski **back row:** Ben Friedl, Pat Brownson, Dave Gleissner, Mike Shaub, Jake Norman, Roger Smith-Bergsrud, Patrick Bond, John Wise, John Dergo, Joe Rizgallah, Harold White, Clinton Polz.

men's wrestling



women's track & cross country

front row: Omoye Ugiagbe, Jamie Brusa, Amanda Pintaro, Angela Bizzarri, Oluchi Nwokocha, Theresa Brokaw, Cheria Morgan, Analisa Austin, Tiara Armstrong, Tamika Robinson, Kaitlyn Eisner-Poor, Allie Dale **second row:** Krystelle Lim, Abby Shunk, Liz Mengyan, Jackie Waldman, Stacy Hague, Nicole Cordero, Grace Lien, Mara Horwitz, Alex Riesche, Cristi Wales, Jasmin Clark, Nadia Raheh **third row:** Rachel Wyffels, Maggie Mulchrone, Danelle Woods, Edirin Davis, Carolyn Tysse, Kate Tysse, Kelly Washington, Rachel Hernandez, Stephanie Baliga, Olabisi Adesida, Amy Mengel, Sequoia McKinney **fourth row:** Christine Rynne, Chantelle Groenewoud, Kelly Smith, Maggie Carroll, Stephanie Meyers **fifth row:** Danyelle Michelini, Kendall Nemeth, Paris Stieeter, Jamie Kuhl, Nikkita Holder, LaNeisha Waller, Aja Evans, Taylor Bennett **back row:** associate head coach Tonja Buford-Bailey, Alecia Beckford-Stewart, Melissa Bates, Jessica Penney, Jackie Ziegler, Elizabeth Boyle, Briana Bunningham, assistant coach Jeremy Rasmussen.



women's tennis

front row: Head Coach Michelle Dasso, Megan Fudge, Annie McCarthy, Alejandra Meza Cuadra, Shivaní Dave, Momei Qu, Marisa Lambropoulos, Leigh Finnegan, Candy Graetz, Kristina Minor, assistant coach David Emery



football

front row: Adrian Melendez, director of football operations; Mike DeCory, offensive graduate assistant; Kurt Beathard, outside receiver, Jim Pry, inside receiver, Eric Wolford, offensive line; Reggie Mitchell, assistant head coach/running backs/recruiting coordinator; Mike Locksley, offensive coordinator/quarterbacks; Ron Zook, Head Coach; Dan Disch, co-defensive coordinator/linebackers; Curt Mallory, co-defensive coordinator/secondary; Tom Sims, defensive line; Mike Woodford, special teams; Steve Sigler, defensive graduate assistant; Lou Hernandez, strength & conditioning coach **second row:** Vontae Davis, Martez Wilson, Marques Wilkins, Rashard Mendenhall, Chris James, Isaiah "Juice" Williams, Dajuan Warren, Arrelious Benn, Eddie McGee, Cody Stunkard, Joe Morgan, Billy Garza, Jason Reda, Will Judson, Marcus Thomas, Chris Duval **third row:** Michael Hoomanawanui, Mark Venegoni, Jeff Cumberland, Nate Bussey, Kevin Bailey, Phil Haig, Tony Petruzzello, Garrett Edwards, Kyle Hudson, Daniel DuFrene, Drew McMahon, Jack Eastman, Bo Flowers, Bharles Bailey, Justin Sanders, Brian Gamble Antonio Gully, Dere Hicks **fourth row:** Troy Pollard, Mike Locksley, Jr., Travon Bellamy, Justin Harrison, Mike Mucha, D'Angelo McCray, Walter Mendenhall, Darius Purcell, Mike Cklamovski, Jared Bosch, Maurice Haney, Kyle Yelton, Ian Thomas, Matt Brandabur, Conor Gillen, Antonio Steele, Russ Weil **fifth row:** Kevin Mitchell, Justin Ijjei, Sam Carson, Nick Levanti, Brit Miller, Rodney Pittman, Tyler Rouse, J. Leman, Erique Robertson, Kyle Knezetic, Tyler Pacha, Anthony Thornhill, Jon Asamoah, Dustin Jefferson, Rahkeem Smith, Anterio Jackson, Sirod Williams, Mike Gerrity, Dan Motuliak **sixth row:** Bryson Whalen, Tad Keely, Ryan McDonald, Cole Knuth, Eric Block, Will Bergen, Martin O'Donnell, Mike Nabolotny, Randall Hunt, Xavier Fulton, Akim Millington, Ben Amundsen, Jack Cornell, Brandon Jordan, Mark Jackson, Charles Myles, Mike Ware, Ryan Palmer **seventh row:** Craig Wilson, Alex Reavy, Will Davis, Frank Lenti, Jacob Willis, Matt Eller, C.J. Jackson, Greg McClendon, Anthony Santella, Tom Sullivan, Antonio James, Derek Walker, Josh Brent, David Lindquist, Doug Pilcher, Chris Norwell, Clay Nurse, Daryle Ballew, Jerry Brown **eighth row:** Sports Medicine Staff - Ana Maquin, student trainer, Emi Matsuno, student trainer; Joe Brutzus, student trainer; Stephanie Westbrook, student trainer; Wilija Bishop, student trainer, Dave Bugalski, sports medicine graduate assistant; Dr. Robert Gurtler, orthopedic surgeon; Matt Litterer, assistant athletic trainer; Byron Cunningham, head athletic trainer; Nick Richey, assistant athletic trainer; Dr. Jeff Kyrouac, team physician, Linda Lenover, team nurse, Jake Naas, student trainer, Dave Schubert, student trainer; Luke Kasper, student trainer; Denise Prather, student trainer; Katie Baldwin, student trainer **ninth row:** Equipment Staff - Danielle Dietz, student manager; Darren Birden, student manager; Mike Reu, student manager, Mike Wojcikowski, student manager, Hans Malehranche, student manager; Justin Dixon, equipment graduate assistant, Kyle Croy, assistant equipment manager, Andy Dixon, equipment manager, Trent Chesnut, football equipment manager; John Birdsell, assistant equipment manager; Steve Starwalt, equipment support staff; Erik Burns, student manager; Lawrence Dart, student manager; Ben Bloomer, student manager; Kyle Lewis, student manager, Allizon Grady, student manager **back row:** Support Staff - Marcellus Casey, team chaplain; Josh Norris, student assistant, Chad Rose, volunteer strength & conditioning coach; Daryl Dixon, assistant strength & conditioning coach; Troy Hatton, assistant strength and conditioning coach, Zach Womack, assistant strength & conditioning coach, Greg Bruner, video coordinator; Tony Buyniski, assistant video coordinator; Chris Pazan, video graduate assistant; Keenan Johnston, video student, R.J. Heninger, video student, Brent Harper, video student, Brian Bradke, video student.



groups and greeks

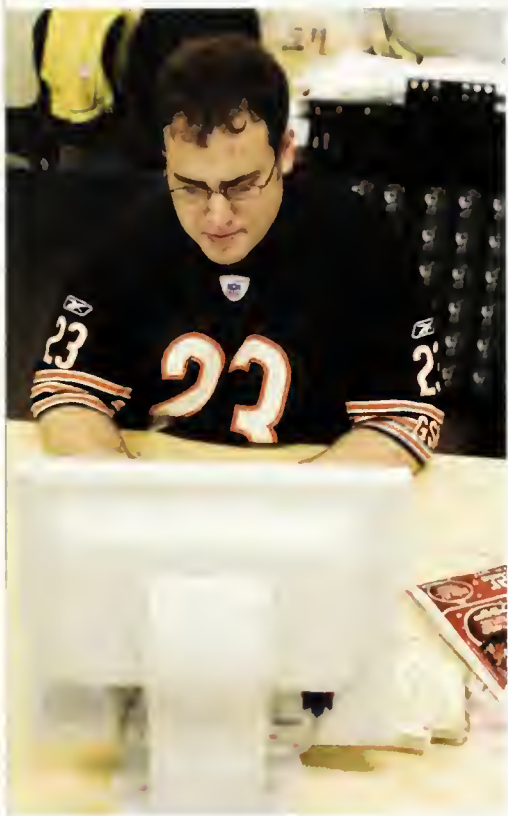


We are not only defined by who we are as individuals, but by who we choose to associate with. As we disperse to widespread corners of the earth, it is good to know that the friends we make during our years at Illinois are often long-lasting.

photo by blake miller

the daily illini

independent student newspaper



Scott Green, sophomore in EAS, concentrates hard as his deadline approaches fast. The DI puts out a newspaper five days a week, making the media building a stressful place.

The Daily Illini (DI) has been around for more than a 130 years and has supplied the students at the University with their daily news. It has been independent for over four decades and free of cost for more than a decade. The Daily Illini is run by the students, for the students and to serve the students.

The team of students running the paper is comprised of the editor-in-chief, Joe Lamberson, four managing editors and an entire staff of about 100 students who are self-motivated and dedicated to getting the paper out each day. The DI staff employs students with majors ranging from English to political science, and from journalism to engineering.

While most of the reporters are freshmen and sophomores, the deputy editors and section editors are more often juniors and seniors. The staff also includes a few graduate students allowing the paper to be represented by students from all departments and years.

"It's a big campus. The students don't know what's going on from one end to the other, so it's our job at the Daily Illini to give them all kinds of information," said Steve Contorno, the deputy sports editor and junior in the college of communications.

The DI is independent from the University and believes in self-regulation and self-censorship. While the students report all the community news, the national and international stories are taken from the Associated Press. "The DI is great to work at for three reasons. The first is that we get to serve the campus better than any Registered Student Organizations. Second, it is a great experience for those who want to go into the occupation. Lastly, the friendships we form here are so strong that it's almost like a fraternity," Contorno said. With a bond this strong, these dedicated students manage to churn out a newspaper five days a week.

Steve Contorno
Deputy Sports Editor

{ "It's a big campus.
It's our **job**
at the *Daily Illini* to give [students] **information.**"

« steve contorno,
deputy sports
editor



Daily Illini Staff **front row:**
Aaron Facemire, Kara
Beach, Kathleen Foody,
Kristen Maorano, Stephe-
nie Lulay, Karis Morrall,
Jonathan Jacobson **second**
row: Jenette Sturges, Phil
Collins, Joe Lamberson
back row: Ryan Davis,
David Just, Andrew Mason,
Steve Contorno, Susan
Kantor, Katie O'Connell,
Roxana Ryan, Erica Magda,
Blake Stubbs.

illini media departments



classifieds staff

front row: Cristina
Giannini, Jesie Hara-
mis, Megan Burke,
Julia Brooks, Kyle
Welter, Tim Aden,
Cody Meyer, Mary Pat
Schultz



advertising staff

front row: Stephanie
Taylor, Mike DeJana,
Nicole Lajson, Rebekah
K... .. Jane Glen
... .. Botta Vantrease
back row: Connor
McCarthy, Lauren
... .. Amy
... .. S... ..
Heather
... ..



help desk

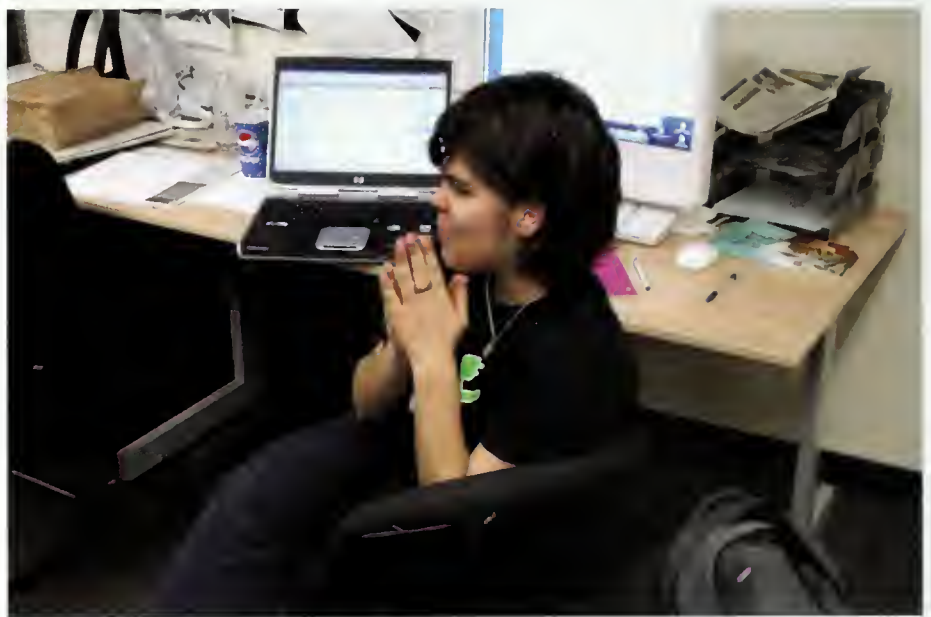
front row: Elizabeth Solis, Jenette Sturges, Emily Breyer, Rachel Sickler
back row: Sarah Durham, Charles Lucas.



creative works

front row: Jon Dozier-Ezell, Frederick Ricks, Matthew Barnes, Laura Knight, Kellie Beckham, Maggie Kent.

Tatyana Safronova
meets with her staff to
discuss their progress.
Safronova acted as
editor-in-chief of the
Buzz for a year and
a half



Tatyana Safronova,
editor-in-chief of
the Buzz, reviews
the work of Renee
Okumura, a member
of the Buzz design
staff. The buzz staff
created all editorial
content for the weekly
magazine

Buzz staff **front row:**
 Anne-Marie Cheely,
 Maria Surawska,
 Mariko Futamura,
 Renee Okumura,
 Catherine Lamy, Car-
 lye Wisel **second row:**
 Tatyana Safronova,
 Stephanie Prather,
 Keri Carpenter, Tanya
 Kachentawa, Steve
 Plock **third row:**
 Jennifer Ferson,
 Evangeline Politis,
 Jamie Rudman, Tom
 Root **back row:** Sam
 Mullineaux, Michael
 Yohanan, Gregory
 Hinchman.



buzz

illini media's weekly entertainment magazine

University students and faculty members, as well as citizens of Champaign-Urbana, have several quality publications to choose from in the area. Among them is Buzz Magazine, a weekly entertainment magazine that focuses on providing readers information on current and upcoming entertainment, social and local issues.

Editor Tatyana Safronova, a senior in the college of communications, described Buzz as an "independent, student-run weekly arts and entertainment magazine." The magazine published a wide variety of stories, including profiles of musical performances that played at the University as well as movie and music reviews. Safronova looked for analysis pieces that explore trends in culture, industry and films. She said, "I appreciate them the most because I think they are the most interesting and I think our readers think so too."

Due to the variety of content in Buzz, the magazine had a wide range of appeal. The magazine was read across the Champaign-Urbana community. Safronova believed the magazine was, "for curious people with an open mind." She added that "people who like to get involved and do stuff" appreciate the advice on upcoming events. Younger readers enjoyed the publication because of the combination of comics, entertainment and intelligent social coverage. "I think we're a source of their arts and entertainment news,"

by [illegible]
 photo by [illegible]
 [illegible]



illio yearbook

editorial staff

Illio, the University's yearbook, is comprised of a staff of University students, with jobs including writers, photographers, designers and editors. To correctly represent the University each year, staff members must research story topics and write stories with photographs to match. Editors work with the photographers and writers, making sure that stories are covered accurately. Designers finish the job and tie every spread together, giving the yearbook a uniform look.

"We develop a theme, brainstorm story ideas, and cover the 'goings-on' at the University throughout the year," said Denielle Stritch, senior in journalism and editor-in-chief of Illio.

Like the yearbook, its staff is a cohesive unit. Each member may be as different as its pages, but all are bound together through their work.

Amanda Chin works with the marketing staff. The staff was in charge of making sure groups and greets around campus purchased space in the 2008 book.

{ “we **work** to develop a *book*
that encompasses the **look, feel** and **spirit**
of the University.”

« denielle stritch,
illio editor-in-chief

Photo editor Blake
Miller color-corrects
photos for the 2008
book. Miller handled
the responsibility
of photo editor as a
sophomore.



Illio Editorial Staff
front row: Renee
Okumura, Denielle
Stritch, Blake Miller,
Jessica D'Amore,
Amanda Brenner
second row: Annie
Koval, Angeline De-
Leon, Melissa Chua,
Melissas Silverberg,
Lindsay Kordik, Court-
ney Coppennoll **third**
row: Kristin O'Brien,
Alissa Groeninger,
Luann Nicolosi,
Danielle Urban, Jes-
sica Miller, Lauren
Laws, Jean Kim **back**
row: Zak Maybaum,
Adam Swiatek, Den-
nis Sudirdjo, Chris
Murphy, Alex Robb,

illio yearbook

sales and marketing staff



Illio Marketing Staff
front row: Kelly
Leahy, Katie Homer,
Amanda Chinn, Sarah
Durham, Emily Beatty.

Although a book such as the University's yearbook, the Illio, seems to contain staffs of people who write, edit and photograph, there is still work that goes on behind the scenes. Illio has to be available and advertised to students interested in purchasing a book. That is where the marketing section comes in.

"The marketing section as a whole is responsible for promoting the sales of yearbooks to students, faculty, University bookstores and anyone else interested," said Emily Beatty, Illio marketing director.

The marketing section also sells actual book pages to various groups and Greek organizations on campus and is in charge of promoting senior portraits. Students may only see the work of the editorial section when opening a yearbook. However, it is through the actions of the marketing section that the yearbook reaches the hands of the students.

back row: Lauren Boyd,
Jenna Smith, Dennis Sudhija

technograph

engineering quarterly magazine

For those who find themselves spending more time nose-deep in the business and technology sections of the newspaper than in the lead features, the Technograph is worth lending an eye to. As a part of Illini Media, Technograph is a free, student-run magazine focused on the growing world of science and technology.

According to Satya Shanmugham, a senior in the college of liberal arts and sciences (LAS) and editor-in-chief of Technograph, the quarterly magazine "highlights how things work, new technological developments and advancements and inventions, both on-campus and nationally."

Technograph is starting to shed its image as a strictly engineering publication. The current staff is comprised of students in a variety of colleges, from LAS to ACES. In terms of content, "It's really a technology magazine, I'd like to call it," Shanmugham said.

photo: amanda boerner

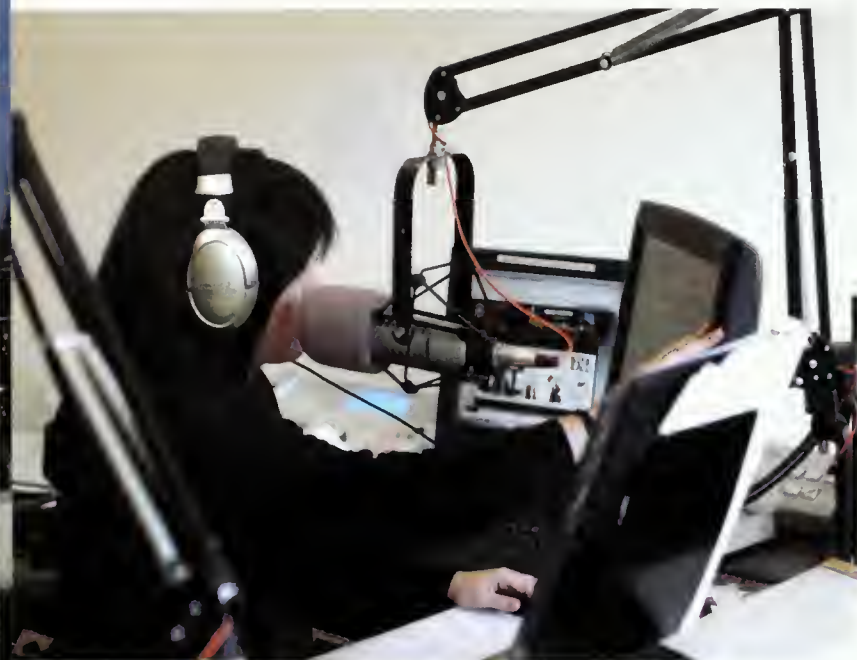
report: dennis sadinjo

Technograph Staff
front row: Matt
Anderson, Declan
Holzman back row:
Aston Hunt, Satya
Shanmugham, Eric
Anderson.



wpgu 107.1 fm

student-run radio station



Lindsey Parker, WPGU DJ, informs listeners of upcoming songs. Parker was one of more than 15 jockeys working with WPGU.

One of five media units belonging to the Illini Media Company, WPGU-FM 107.1 is an independent, student-run radio station which calls itself the "True Alternative." Established as the "Parade Ground Unit" in 1953, WPGU was originally an experimental radio station created by a group of engineering students at the University. Fourteen years later, in 1967, WPGU began broadcasting on FM radio and now broadcasts over an area of 50 miles, offering alternative music, news, sports and specialty shows 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Susanna Pak, a junior in the college of communications and entertainment reporter for WPGU, believes that the station's focus on the local music scene gives it an advantage over other stations. "PGU is the alternative to what everyone listens to. They always focus on "local, local, local," because you can get national everywhere else. It's a little more personal, I think," Pak said.

Travis Wayne Hurt, recent graduate from the college of communications and former WPGU music director, also feels that WPGU offers something different by playing music that isn't normally played by mainstream radio stations. "Our audience is kind of on the lookout for something new or something different," he said.

WPGU programming includes live student disc jockeys, a request line, remote broadcasts in the Champaign-Urbana area, contests and promotions. Each year, the station also co-hosts the Local Music Awards to promote local bands and give listeners the chance to vote for their favorites.



WGPU Staff **front**
row: Lyndon Steward,
 Becky Brothman,
 Pete Meersman, Gina
 Provenzano, Mauricio
 Herrera **back row:**
 Steve Plock, Mike
 Zande, Jon Hansen,
 Mathieu Brown.

{ “definitely **not** mainstream.”

« susanna pak, wpgu
 entertainment reporter



Illini Media Board
front row: Emily Beatty, Deni Stritch, Tom Costello, Becky Brothman, Sarah Durham
back row: Rich Martin, Eric Jung, Joe Lamberson, Mary Cory, Brock Perkes, Susan Cohen, Brian Johnson, Fareedah Omar, Satya Shanmugham, Britta Vantrese, Barry Glass, Melissa Pasco.

illini media

board of directors

Illini Media is the hub of student communication on campus, highlighting student attitudes on local events and national news. The student-media scene at the University of Illinois features the Illio, the Daily Illini, the Buzz, the Technograph and WPGU. But each Illini Media department functions autonomously, with no direct affiliation to the University.

The Illini Media Board of Directors, including four faculty and four student members, hold together this unique student business. The Board discusses issues including how to raise and distribute funds, how to advertise for the company and who to hire as student editors and managers.

When asked to describe the distinct flavor of the Illini Media, faculty board member Tom Costello said, "The single one word is 'Independence.'" It is the independence of the organization that gives students total freedom, as well as responsibility for the content of their publications.

"We want to be sure that we have editorial freedom for our students to be able to report stories as they see them," said Brian Johnson, journalism professor and faculty board member. "Our students have been aggressive journalists, but they have also been sensitive on the whole about their role." The Board ensures that Illini Media maintains its status as a student-run business, independent of the University. This way, the students remain responsible for creating their own image, to reflect the ever-changing times.



{ "IUB has helped me
become a better
leader."

« madeline henry, senior
in advertising

Illini Union Board
front row: Marilyn
Nguyen, Abigail
Fleming, Leslie
Cornell, Lynn Tran
back row: Xuan Li,
Dan Newman, Obaid
Sarvana, Ed Slaznik,
Mike Buehlman,
Raghav Chadha,
Mike Kelly, Jeanne
Poole **not pictured:**
Janet Davis, Elizabeth
Rockman.

nickname / iub
u of i founding date / 1942

phi chi theta

nickname / PCT
u of i founding date / 1929
colors / purple & gold
symbols / ΦΧΘ

PCT participated in the adopt-a-pathway service, as well as dedicating weekend mornings to community fundraisers and re-building efforts.

Members of the
Phi Chi Theta, zeta
gamma chapter business
fraternity.



sigma alpha

u of i founding date / 2000
colors / emerald & maize
symbols / baby bull & yellow chrysanthemum

sigma alpha participated in Deck the Halls, a christmas decorations contest, benefitting the Champaign County Human Society.

Sigma Alpha **front row:** Hannah Rothe, Cassie Becker,
Lis Troyler **second row:** Michelle Wesley, Andrea Steele,
Heather Busse, Veronica Handegan, Katie Haarman
third row: Erin Hafel, Elizabeth Johnson, Jennifer
Babbs, Jhane Reifsteck **fourth row:** Kelly Wagahoff,
Kelsey Bess, Rachel Stuart, Heather Lopez **back row:**
Lindsey Bruntjen, Sarah Turek, Brook Elliott, Christina
Derango, Megan Coy, Sara Haag, Whitney Keller.

Illini Pride **improved** the quality of life for campus communities by providing financial support and contributing service to not-for-profit organizations in the area.

u of i founding date / 1977

colors / orange & blue

illini pride

student athletic board

Winning first place in the RSO division of the Homecoming Awards, Illini Pride members spent countless hours completing their float in time. An underlying theme to this year's float is the 30th anniversary of Illini Pride



Illini Pride **front row:** Mallory Martin, Gretchen Kopeck, Genevieve Wessel, Myra Hornbrook
second row: Kimberly Koch, Lunan Yen, Amanda Golden, Amanda Banas, Katherine Reynolds
third row: Matthew Teresi, Jenna Wilkerson, Erin McKeague, Rachel Blonski, Cody Bornsheuer
fourth row: Jason Kave, Katie Hurliman, Maggie Moerschbecher, Kristine Hanson, Jeffrey Powers
back row: Ryan Mroz, Eric Benz, Myles Hastings, Matthew LeBlanc, Brian LeClerc



Preparing for the halftime card stunts at the Northwestern game, Block I Stunt Coordinator Matthew LeBlanc hands out instructions to fellow Blockheads. LeBlanc donned a "Bowl Bound" jersey for the game to signify the faith he had in the football team.

Cody Bornsheuer, Drew Logeman and Maggie Moerschbaeher engage in the "J Leman Chant" during the Illiniwalk at Memorial Stadium before the Penn State game. Members are present before every home game to welcome and wish the team good luck.



{ "illini pride ^{of} life."
 is a way « dustin boyer,
 recreation, sport
 and tourism
 management

2007-2008 Panhellenic Council Executive Officers

yael dvorin / president

maggie cmunt / vice president, service

kristen sobo / vice president, finance

elizabeth rahn / vice president, public relations

amy gurka / vice president, development

katie strle / vice president, scholarship

heather duitsman / vice president, internal affairs

jessica sopko / vice president, recruitment

sarah priven / vice president, judicial affairs

yasmina mokraoui / vice president, risk management

u of i founding date / 1902

nickname / PHC

panhellenic council

Heather Duitsman, Maggie Cmunt, Katie Strle, Jessica Sopko, Yael Dvorin and Amy Gurka pose with Evan Handler from *Sex and the City* during his visit to the University. The council participated in numerous social events to break up their hard work.



Panhellenic Council
Executive Board
front row: Heather
Duitsman, Katie Strle,
Amy Gurlisa, Yael
Dvorin, Jessica Sopko,
Elizabeth Rahn,
Sara Priven, Yasmina
Mokraoui, Maggie
Cmunt, Kristen Sobo.



The Panhellenic Council **raised** funds for several agencies including Ronald McDonald House, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Habitat for Humanity and A Woman's Fund. The council also **hosted** joint events with the Black Greek Council, the Interfraternity Council and the United Greek Council.

Yasmina Mokraoui,
Kristen Sobo, Yael
Dvorin, Katie Strle,
Elizabeth Rahn,
Sara Priven and
Amy Gurka prepare
to present on-stage at
Greek Oscars in Foel-
linger Auditorium.



{ "the council has **challenged**
me to **grow** as a leader, *educator*,
motivator and *friend*."

« yael dvorin,
panhellenic council president



The new member class of 2011 at Bid Day. The group will live in the Alpha O's house during their sophomore year.



Alpha O's cheer for those running the annual Run for the Roses. The event was one of two major philanthropic occasions they supported.



The Executive Recruitment Committee for Recruitment 2007. The committee set up events and programs for recruitment week.

alpha omicron pi

symbols / wheat panda ruby & jacqueminet rose

nickname / alpha O's

u of i founding date / 1911

colors / cardinal

{ "I'm leaving with strong ties to the girls and to the university."

« lauren simpson, senior in molecular and cellular biology

Alpha Omicron Pi's sponsored Run for the Roses, turning all proceeds over to the Arthritis foundation for research, as well as the Mud Olympics, supporting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



Chi Omega **worked** with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, hosting a tug-of-war competition and a variety show, involving performances from the XTension chords and Illini Drumline.

symbols / owl

nickname / chi O's

u of i founding date / 1900

colors / cardinal & straw

chi omega

Katherine Roarty, Brittany Anselmo, Sarah Hawkins, Kelly Gustafson and MaryPat Flanagan get pumped for Tug Fest, the Chi Omega's fall philanthropy.



Bridget McNamara, Mandi Heckinger, Ashley Daniels and Jamie Lunt get ready for open house on the first day of recruitment.



Chi Omega Seniors, **front row:** Natalie Adamson, Reagan Darnier, Jenny Curry, Rachel Rusinak, Bridget McNamara, Jessica Brett, Stephanie Ames, Regina Rekus **second row:** Chrysan Gardner, Isabella Gutowski, Nicole DuBois, Cassie Carroll, Athi Toufexis, Jenny Coulter, Stephanie Chin, Betsy McAvoy, Ashley Lerman, Megan Brattin, Nina Gazaniani **back row:** Jessica Weil, Mandi Heckinger, Ashley Daniels, Krissy Tracey, Alyssa Klein, Colleen Kelly, Bevin Carrol, Courtney Towers, Laura Janko, Kelle Curran, Gia Marinis



symbols / lion, diamonds & violet

nickname / $\Delta\Delta\Pi$

u of i founding date / 1912

colors / blue & white

alpha delta pi

Sarah Strickel, Annie Rohloff, Sydney Vinik, Katie Sheridan, Cristina Giannini, Lauren Johnston and Jessie Haramis were excited after a successful bid day. Alpha Delta Pi initiated 48 new members.



The senior class of Alpha Delta Pi



Jillian Schaefer, Lisa Walsh, Erin Ahn and Molly DeSalle get ready for a round of recruitment. Each of these women put a lot of time and effort into making recruitment the success it was.

Alpha delta pi **hosted** 'Kickin it with $\Delta\Delta\Pi$ ' and a pancake dinner, sending the proceeds to Ronald McDonald House.



The members of IlliDell.

IlliDell members **cooperated** with the Red Cross, holding a blood drive each semester.



IlliDell Seniors **front row:** Paul Kirbach, Mike Leick, Jacob Walker, Brad Nobbe, Cody Skees **back row:** James Doelling, Jake Vial, Zach Kuhfuss, James Hasheider, Brent Schneider, Kyle Atteberry.

illidell

of alpha gamma sigma

symbols / scale of equality & hand clasp of cooperation

nickname / illidell

u of i founding date / 1949

colors / royal blue & silver

Alex Titlow barrels down the runway in his finest swimming attire during a slip 'n' slide party held in IlliDell's front yard. The IlliDell's were much more than "all business."



{ "IlliDell has enhanced my skill set through their increasingly **global** interface."

« justin stanley, Phd candidate and head researcher, astrophysics

alpha gamma delta



symbols / rose, pearl & squirrel

nickname / alpha gams

u of i founding date / 1918

colors / red, green, & buff

Alpha Gamma Delta's participate in the yearly Water Wars Philanthropy. Proceeds went to juvenile diabetes research

Alpha Gamma Delta **participated** in "Water Wars," a water competition raising money for juvenile diabetes research funding.



Alpha Gamma Delta's newest additions - pledge class of 2011. The new pledges chose Alpha Gamma Delta during recruitment week, making their induction a mutual choice.



Alpha Gamma Delta's 2008 Pledge Class. The group spent four years together, living both in the house and later in apartments on and off campus.

phi kappa psi

Phi Kappa Psi members **coordinated** a volunteer trip to New Orleans to help the Hurricane Katrina re-building process, as well raising over \$3,800 on "Blitz Day."

symbols / $\Phi\Kappa\Psi$
 nickname / phi psi
 u of i founding date / 1904
 colors / cardinal red & hunter green

Phi Psi volunteer at Camp Hope in New Orleans. **front row:** Chris Lara, Brad Scelfo, Tyler Damyen, Conor Weber, Austin Monroe, Rhanz Cuison **back row:** Sebastian Bohorquez, Nate Kelsey, RJ Santana, Adam Lopez.



"it helped **prepare** me for the next **step** of my life."
 « mike glaser, senior in biochemistry

Phi Psi **front row:** Ken Sampson, Patrick O'Reilly, Jeremy Werner, Josh Weslowski **second row:** Kyle Schreiner, Steve Ward, Tyler Damyen, Scott Johnson, Tren Pflaum, Brian Turcza **third row:** Scott Allen, Zach Grotovsky, Chris Lara, Grant Reed **fourth row:** Shaun Mehdi, Scott Thompson, Nate Kelsey, Sean Wunderlich, Jesse Wolter **fifth row:** James Hofbauer, Charlie Meyer, Pat Lynch, Luke Karcher, Adam Lopez **sixth row:** Niko Jefferson, Mike Sharlog, RJ Santana, Doug McDonald **back row:** Matt Mueller, Mark Myers, Chris DiFranco, Danny Heidtke, Matt McCray.



Phi Psi members of Illinois Delta with UCLA alum and Phi Psi member Jerry Nelson, co-founder Ticketmaster. Phi Psi participated in numerous philanthropic events throughout the year.



Delta Chi **front row:** Teddy Powers, Kyle Keever. **second row:** Frank Cartwright, Ian Kendrick, Zach Fletcher, Andy Finn, Nate Christensen, Kavshik Ponnusamy, Justin Kleehammer, Andrew Colgan. **third row:** Dave McMurray, John Granich, Brian Yates, Eric Smith, Brian Medina, Justin Rosenblume, Reuven Chavira, Jonathon Schutt, Evan Rabens. **fourth row:** Kevin Francis, Nick Dankler, Mike Jones, Jacob Rabu, Erik Reik, Jacques Achille, Alec Pischalnikov, Eric Becker, Steve Pitula. **back row:** Eric Leigh, Matt Houlihan, Jared Wright, Matthias Maciaszek, Dan Force, Zach Waldron, Joe Marino, Matt Alvin, Zach Wagner, Robert Howard.

Delta Chi Executive Board Members
front row: Evan Rabens, Brian Medina, Andrew Colgan
back row: Zach Waldron, Matt Houlihan, Eric Leigh.



delta chi

nickname / d-chi

u of i founding date / 1923

colors / red & buff



delta chi **volunteered** at a local soup kitchen, serving food and visiting with patrons, as well as spending time at the Crisis Nursery of Champaign.

“
I've gained countless
« joseph f. marino, *brothers* for **life.**”
senior in engineering mechanics

student alumni ambassadors

nickname / saa

u of i founding date / 1976

colors / blue & orange

SAA sponsored iHelp: the Homecoming volunteer project, volunteering at over 43 agencies around Champaign-Urbana.

iHelp co-chairs
Brian Fisher, Sarah
Losh, Emily Holton
and Meghan Janci
celebrate a successful
event. The co-chairs
spent countless hours
helping the event run
smoothly.



2007 Executive Board
front row: Jennifer
Large, Amanda Katz,
Ashley Aneloski, Sally
Yoon, Emily Holton
back row: Tyler De
Shon, Zach Bielasco,
Jon Motto.



Student Alumni
Ambassadors 2008.

{ “ / proudly
call this home.”
« christopher poisson,
senior in history

alpha kappa lambda



The Alpha Kappa Lambda house is located on Fourth and Daniel Streets

nickname / AKL

u of i founding date / 1921

colors / purple & gold



alpha Kappa Lambda **hosted** both a haunted house and their annual event, Arctic Blasts, with proceeds going to These Hands Don't Hurt, an organization stressing education about domestic violence.



Jared Kanallakan, Ming Geng, Matt Van Egeron, Luke O'Sadnick, Andy Shallcross and Scott Deuser pause with women of the Alpha Omicron Pi after the Mud Olympics. The men played with numerous other greek houses.



Mike Allegretti, Eric Bellendir, Zach Raebler and Tim Holt cheer on the Illini at a home football game. The fraternity utilized their football block all season to cheer on the Illini.

Σ Sigma Chi **earned** more than \$15,000 hosting Derby Days for the Children's Miracle Network.



nickname / sigs
 symbols / ΣΧ
 u of i founding date / 1881
 colors / blue & old gold

sigma chi

Sigma Chis, 2008.





35 Sig Eps traveled to Miami, Florida to help build houses in areas that were affected by Hurricane Katrina. The group did find time to play after working hard.

Sig Eps in Orange Krush at an Illini basketball game. While not required, many Sig Eps participated in Orange Krush to support the organization.



Sigma Phi Epsilon held a variety-show competition to support Youth AIDS and participated in Jog for Josh, proceeds of which went to the Josh Gottheil Memorial Fund.

Brotherhood is a very important part of the Sig Ep Ideal. More than 60 Sig Eps traveled to Bloomington, Ind. to cheer on the Illini football team this past fall.



symbols / golden heart
nickname / sig eps
u of i founding date / 1903
colors / purple & red

sigma phi epsilon

gamma phi beta

nickname / g phis

symbols / crescent moon

u of i founding date / 1874

colors / brown & mode

Gamma Phi Beta members **conducted** their annual golf tournament and Taco Fiesta dinner to support Campfire U.S.A.

{ “to foster a nurturing environment providing women the opportunity to achieve their potential.”

« gamma phi beta mission statement



2010 Pledge Class.



2011 Pledge Class.



2009 Pledge Class.

Jackie Sievers, Britany Patterson, Emily Cook, Dana Yormark, and Tara Tometich fill their plates at the Gamma Phi-esta Taco Buffet line. The event raised money for Campfire, U.S.A.

american marketing association

nickname / AMA

u of i founding date / 1937



AMA members gather for several social events throughout the year. These are in addition to the work they do with the association.



2007-2008 Inner-Council Members.

The association **assisted** the Champaign-Urbana Halloween FunFest at Marketplace Mall, as well as **working** with Adopt-a-Highway and Carle Clinic's North Pole event.



American Marketing Association co-hosted a Marketing Panel to give students networking opportunities. At the event, several CEOs and professors spoke about their professions and answered many questions.

AMA ^{“What I like **best** about} *is the diversity* of members.” }

« ryan lindahl, american marketing association president

alpha phi

nickname / phis

symbols / lily of the valley & the ivy leaf

u of i founding date / 1922

colors / silver & bordeaux



The new 2011 pledge class excited to be new Phis on Bid Day '07.

members of Alpha Phi hosted Operation Ivy Leaf, sending proceeds to kidney cancer research and the Alpha Phi Foundation

Alpha Phis **front row:** Annie Colletti, Kathryn Scott, Allison Burman, Sarah Phelps, Jill Novak **back row:** Melanie Krakauer, Megan Robertson, Jessa Becker, Summer Appling, Karina Kennedy, Chrissy Horton.



Stephanie Liss, Karina Kennedy, Jill Novak, Laurel Johnson, Erin McKernin, Laura Cook, Cassie Yourist and Lauren Metz "Go Red" in a fashion show at their annual King of Hearts philanthropy event which supports Cardiac Care.

illini 'n' motion

u of i founding date / 1994

⌞ The women of illini 'n' motion **participated** in the Boogie Nights Dance Marathon.

Officers: Lindsay Tully, Natalie Hicks, Kristin Sackley, Jamie Miller.



Illini 'n' Motion **front row:** Katy Galli, Kristie Cobb, Natalie Hicks, Kristin Sackley, Lauren Olson, Karen Tsui **second row:** Sarah Leach, Katie Waskevich, Leah Furmanski, Stephanie Florence, Sarah Exleben, Bridget Haley, Kimberly Redecker, Kristi Rhodes, Briana Horn **third row:** Lindsay Tully, Caitlin Morris, Savana Soder, Beth Ferguson, Erin Fullerton, Lindsey Vrtis, Colby Prunty, Jesse Kappel, **back row:** Sandy Splayt, Rae Hughes, Francesca Saporito, Kelly Boger, Molly Gipson, Tessa Myers, Jamie Miller, Kim Proudfoot **Not Pictured:** Tiffany Hall, Erin Mangian, Lisa Fisherkiller



phi eta sigma

freshmen

honor society

nickname / PES

symbols / ΦΗΣ

u of i founding date / 1923

colors / black & gold

⌞ Phi Eta Sigma **tutored** both on campus and off at Garden Hills Elementary School.

Executive Board
Members **front row:**
Emily Lin, Kara Smith, Sarah Ostrow, Sarah Troutman, Jenna Wilkerson, Amanda Katz, Melissa Hayne, Michelle Beck



Phi Eta Sigmas **front row:** Adva Steiner, Sarah Troutman, Amanda Katz, Michelle Beck **back row:** Melissa Hayne, Jenna Wilkerson, Sarah Ostrow, Kara Smith, Emily Lin



2007-2008 IEMS
Officer Corps: Emily
Dray, Steve Gutzmer,
Kurt Bloomstrand,
Ashley Pastore,
Cody Brumm, Saori
Nakagawa, Layne
Phillips, Lauren Real-
muto, Andrew Mann,
Heather Thomas, John
Saunders, Nazia Alvi,
Karissa Monney, Liz
Furgat. **Not Pictured:**
Dean Adams, Josh
Zimmerman, Ben
Lantow, Toby Ga-
brielsen.



nickname / iems
symbols / star of life & iems patch
u of i founding date / 1979
colors / blue & orange

illini emergency medical services

IEMS teams **volunteered** all year long and were requested by sports, concerts, or other University events.

"IEMS has been ^{my} greatest influence."
« layne phillips, president of iems »

kappa alpha theta

nickname / thetas
symbols / kite
u of i founding date / 1895
colors / black & gold

Kappa alpha theta **hosted** Theta Hoops, benefitting CASA, as well as the Jog for Josh.



Theta Junior Class.



Theta Seniors on
Bid Day.

AGA members tour Argentina's Andes Mountains. The group visited historical cities such as Buenos Aires and Mendoza, received lectures from high-level faculty members at Belgrano University, and took time to go horse-back riding and white-water rafting.



aces global ambassadors

nickname / AGA

symbols / globe upheld by two hands

u of i founding date / 2002

ACES **donated** funds to a development project in Honduras after hosting a bake sale and coupon book sale.

alpha chi rho

nickname / crows

symbols / AXP

u of i founding date / 1916

colors / garnet & white

alpha chi rho members **spent** time in a continuous effort to improve the lives of the students at Thomas Paine Elementary School.



Alpha Chi Rhos **front row:** Brian Schmidt, Tom Fallbacher, Sachit Rao, Brian Dekonig, Ryan Pinto, Tim Smith **second row:** Joel Bonnesera, Mike Kotrba, Phil Rehani, Patrick Tamborski, William Kormos, Arjun Baidur, Matt Duch **back row:** Joey Urban, Eric Johnson, Jason Luksis, Sean Rohan, Anthonie Moll, Matt Sykes, Roger Serwy, Andrew Keeney, Keyan McCaffrey, Tim Noffke.



Campus Girl Scouts **front row:** Ashee Ford, Sarah Schepis, Jessica Kubiszyn, Fatima Chishtii, Virginia Byrne, Jazmine Romero **back row:** Elizabeth Elam, Victoria Svazas, Samantha Gibson, Bernadette Skohel, Kelly C. Hayes, Kirstin Shaler, Natalie Skohel not pictured: Molly Goodman, Ava Strough, Claire Kraussand, kathryn Korth

campus girl scouts

The girl scouts **hosted** badge events for girls of all ages.

nabor house

symbols /

u of i founding date / 1939

colors /

"Nabor house has **given** me the **opportunity** to **grow**."
« lucas martin, senior in animal sciences



Nabor House **front row:** Travis Markley, Andrew Morehouse, Ben Plumier, Rob Johnson, David Shier **second row:** Dave Murphy, Race Higgins, Devin Bergman, Andrew Fulton, Ben Wendling, Victor Johnson, Lucas Martin, Casey Campbell, Lee Brokaw, Brandon Bozarth **back row:** Jay Kelley, Grant Hannah, Josh Vank, Randy Lindgren, Curtis Zurliene, Chris Francis, John Lock

kappa delta



Kappa Delta house,
located at 1204 S.
Lincoln.

nickname / kay dees

symbols / nautilus shell, dagger, teddy bear & katydid

u of i founding date / 1897

colors / olive green & pearl white



Kay dees **held** their annual Shamrock event, a chili dinner and a bake sale, donating over \$100,000 to date to the Champaign Crisis Nursery.

Kappa Delta Seniors
pause for a moment
on Bid Day, 2007.
Seniors help organize
and run the recruit-
ment of future Kappa
Deltas.



4-h house

nickname / etas

symbols / 4-h, hhhh

u of i founding date / 1934

colors / green & white

4-H **conducted** the Bake
for You event and a Euchre
Tournament, proceeds of
which went towards Jour-
ney, helping to prosecute
repeated drunk-driving
offenders.



The lovely Etas of
'07-'08.



Delta Zetas **front row:**
Cheryl Riordan, Katie
Hopp, Grace Ding, Gina
Rizzo, Andrea Lindemann,
Emily Huebener **back row:**
Carrie Kobriniz, Jackie Slo-
boda, Elizabeth Pastuovic,
Katie Krahulec, Melissa
Wilkinson, Jessica Ander-
son, Allyn Krusemark

Traci Leslie, Jackie
Sloboda and Natalie
Zaval rest after a night
out. Delta Zetas spent
time together both in
and away from the
house.



{ "While many things ^{in your} life
change,
Delta Zeta ^{will}
be the one **constant.** "

« melissa wilkinson, senior in kinesiology

nickname / dee zee

symbols / killarney rose, diamond & roman lamp

u of i founding date / 1921

colors / old rose & vieux green

delta zeta

Delta Zeta members
supported the Sound
Beginnings Program,
which raised awareness
of the need for newborn
hearing screening.

Samantha Schreiner,
Mattie Straebel,
Alex Noble, Melissa
Wilkinson, Kelly Losik
and Cheryl Riordan
pause to relax
between activities
during recruitment.
All events are planned
by current members
for the week of
recruitment.



Delta Zeta Semi-
formal **front row:**
Melissa Wilkinson,
Alyssa Cook, Myrna
Villarreal, Andrea Lin-
demann, Katie Hopp
back row: Natalie Za-
val, Jessica Anderson,
Grace Ding, Traci
Lesli, Caiti Toomey,
Katie Krahulec,
Cheryl Riordan.



engineering council

symbols / ec logo

nickname / ec

u of i founding date / 1921

colors / orange & blue

engineering council **coordinated** the annual haunted house at the Marketplace Mall, the largest event at Halloween Fun Fest.



Winners of the Engineering Battle Royale celebrate during engineers week, 2007. E-week encouraged engineering students to participate in a variety of events and activities.



Engineering Council Executive Board
front row: Meagan Simantz, Casey Roth, Patrick Sykes, Tim Kennedy, Michelle Hallander
back row: David Rockwood, Michelle Hattan, Emmalyn Riley, Kevin Spitz, Chris Reeg, Justin Lewis, Anu Biswas, Petri Kofkin, Drwe Griffiths, Joseph Lamplot, Mark Sieklucki, Scott Banjavic



Engineering Freshmen Committee's Executive Board. This committee is run by freshmen, for freshmen, to get them involved in the college and in Engineering Council.

EOH executive board members Jason Chang and Ravi Thakkar stand with an impressive exhibit from the high school Rube Goldberg competition. The Open House was just one of the activities the Council worked with during the year.



{ "the council *is about*
the **people** *you*
meet." « patrick sykes,
engineering council
president

triangle fraternity

nickname / old rose & grey
u of i founding date / 1907



Alumni return to celebrate 100 years for the fraternity. Old and new triangle members mingled and discussed their time at Illinois.



Triangle brothers and guests dress up for Halloween festivities. The group often held social events to relax after weeks of studying.

lambda chi alpha

Lambda Chi Alpha
White Rose Formal
2007.



Lambda Chi Alpha **front row:** Adam Heinz, Kevin Mores, Matt Roos, Mitch Burmeister, Phil Johnson, Mike Mago, Edgar Meir, Mike Schmitz, Phil Hyma, Tristen Krohn, Tyler Wendt, Nick Jacob, Jack Vuylsteke, Chris Mallon, Kevin McCarthy, Phil Banker, Conor Parker, Paul Kaskovick **second row:** Scott Pelletier, Alex Piloff, Kevin O'Brien, Marco Novelli, Brian Herzog, Joe Davern, Mike Walker, Brian Golden, Ryan Beckmann, Dan Waters, Kevin Pajman **third row:** David Michael, Josh Williams, Mike Letona, Dan O'Connor, Sean Phillips, Dan Rickert, Kyle Pellum, Nick Vrkljan, Tim Stanton, Matt Dieska **fourth row:** Matt Hammock, Joe Gardner, Nick Schwarz, Eric Gotkowski, Kevin Letourneau, Sam Altaner, Adam Zoellner, Brady Collins, David Jarava, Mike Stegeman **back row:** Andrew Danielle, Josh Kwon, Robert Stewart, Jerry Edwards, Shirley Edwards, Mark Cassidy, Matt Monaghan, Steve Rocus, Dan Lunstedt.

delta gamma

nickname / deegees

symbols / anchor

u of i founding date / 1906

colors / bronze, pink & blue



Freshman DeeGees celebrate the beginning of a holiday social event. The sorority did get a chance to relax between school work and philanthropic events.

Senior DeeGees pause for a moment before their semi-formal event. The group traveled through the University together as delta gammas for all four years of college.



Delta Gamma **adopted** Service for Sight as their national philanthropy, raising money through their "Anchor Splash" event.

DeeGee '08's on Bid Day. After preparing for their final recruitment, seniors chose to enjoy the week instead of stress over it.



nickname / frames

symbols / red & white roses in equal number

u of i founding date / 1914

colors / green, gold & white

farmhouse



FarmHouse Fraternity
'07-'08.



FarmHouse Seniors
front row: Clinton
Charles, Christopher
Massie, Bruce Frank,
Jacob Butcher, Tren-
ton Rader, Michael
Book.

FarmHouse fraternity **hosted** their fifth annual Bags for Babes event, with earnings donated to the Crisis Nursery.

“I made **life-long** friends.”
brothers and
« bruce frank, senior in
agricultural and consumer
economics

psi upsilon

nickname / psi u

u of i founding date / 1910

colors / garnet & gold

⌞ Psi Upsilon **posted**
a booth on the quad
encouraging students to
become organ donors,
helping to save lives.

Everett "Red"
Andrews, class of '43,
passes down wisdom
from his days in the
house to Mark Baker,
class of '09. Psi Up-
sillons have been on
campus since 1910.



Members gather
outside the house
during the first annual
philanthropy event,
"Knock Out Juvenile
Diabetes." Psi Upsilon
participated in numer-
ous philanthropic
events throughout
the year

Psi Upsilon '10s **front**
row: Milton Wang,
Chns Schauer, Brock
Booton, Meng Song,
Andrew Castillo,
Dave Werdein.

pi beta phi

nickname / pi phi's

symbols / arrow & angel

u of i founding date / 1895

colors / wine & silver blue



Pi Phi's **promoted** literacy at a local elementary school with Champions are Readers (CARs) by hosting the Arrow-games and the Pi Phi Palooza.

Junior Pi Phi's front row: Sarah Losh, Laura Hornell and Suzie Brindise.



Senior Pi Phi's Emily Holtan, Leslie Selcke and Mary Ellen Malgiak travel to the Illini football game. The girls enjoyed supporting their team throughout the year.



Senior Pi Phi's front row: Lizzie Gambonev, Alison Briestansky, Jane Gleason, Melissa Hayne, Ruth Spiller.

“Collegiate 4-H has been a wonderful
experience that has connected me
to my past.”

Collegiate 4-H
assisted county
extension offices
by holding Parlia-
mentary Procedure
and Officer Training
workshops.

symbols / 4-h clover

u of i founding date / 1916

colors / green & white

collegiate 4-h house



Collegiate 4-H mem-
bers celebrate the
end of the semester
at their December
get-together and
meeting.

nickname / tri-delta

symbols / pearl, pansy, pine, dolphin & poseidon

u of i founding date / 1920

colors / silver, gold & cerulean blue

delta delta delta



Participating in recruitment is one of the most exciting parts of Tri-Delta, but it's also a tearful moment for our seniors as they reflect on the memories of the past four years.

Retreats are always a time to form friendships for our new members. Freshmen formed themselves into three life-size triangles at their new member retreat.



“They gave me the **confidence** to be **proud** of who I am.”



Vanessa Castellano, Karly Chisholm, Julie Arabia and Ashley Richman look forward to participating in Greeks at Bat. The event was the Tri Delta's annual philanthropy event.



Excited new pledges Maggie Schroeder, Jamie Dammrich and Dana Chirico pause together outside on the "Delta Rock" during recruitment.

Delta Delta Delta **donated** funds to the children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital by hosting Greeks at Bat and the "Sincerely Yours" letter writing campaign.

nickname / *alphas*
 symbols / *golden lyre*
 u of i founding date / 1899
 colors / *scarlet red & olive green*

alpha chi omega



The 2009 Pledge class gets together on the 2008 Alpha Chi Omega Sisterhood Day.



Jackie Barbara, Jessie Oh, Danielle Ostrower, Michelle Wesley, Christina Banuelos and Erin Little are ready to play for a good cause, the Alpha Chi girls came out for a softball philanthropy.

The senior 2008 pledge class gets ready to welcome the third invite of formal recruitment.



“These girls are so **uniquely genuine.**”

« michelle wesley,
 senior in international studies

symbols / heart & dove
 u of i founding date / 1874
 colors / maroon & lavender

sigma kappa

Allie Rhine, Michelle Sawicki, Kristina Birchard, Charlotte Fullerton, Kerry Pearson, Amy Wegrzyn, Michelle Kloempken and Ali Schaller visit the Curtis Orchard Pumpkin Patch. The visit was an activity planned for Big Sis day.



Heather Lanuti, Abby Ptak, Clara Kim, Jen Schrieber, Kerry Pearson, Kim Scanlon, Meghan O'Meara, Abby Gunia, Bailly Merrel, Alaina Bates and Sara Belczak cheer the Illini to Victory. Sigma Kappas purchased their own block of seats for Illini football games.



Katie Foody, Marsha Sorenson, Karen Pinkonsly, Sara Belczak, Kim Scanlon, Katie Moran and Haley Drake strike a pose during recruitment. The girls interviewed rush hopefuls, choosing their favorite as future Sigma Kappas.

Σ Sigma Kappa **donated** funds to Gerontology, the scientific study dedicated to Alzheimer's research after hosting "Find a Cure" fiesta dinner and the Sigma Kickball Tournament.



seniors



We have done our time, finished our work, and settled on a path. Each unique image is complete, with one universal similarity – we are all Illini.

photo by josh birnbaum

David Abram,
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING VAN METERS IA
Michael Adduci,
GEOGRAPHY GLEN ELLYN, IL
Dylan Afeld,
MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
SPRINGFIELD, IL
Nisa Agrawal,
ACCOUNTING AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
BURR RIDGE, IL
Catalina Aguirre,
SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCE OAK PARK, IL
Lauren Ahasic,
RECREATION SPORTS MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM
AURORA, IL

Young-Seob Ahn,
COMPUTER SCIENCE URBANA, IL
Rabia Ahsan,
MATHEMATICS ORLAND PARK, IL
Sesan Akinwale,
INTEGRATIVE BIOLOGY MARKHAM, IL
David Albrecht,
COMPUTER ENGINEERING HOMERWOOD, IL
Douglas Alleman,
CEE GRANVILLE, IL
Scott Allen,
AEROSPACE ENGINEERING ALGONQUIN, IL

Kevin Altier,
COMPUTER ENGINEERING RIVER FOREST, IL
Brian Alvin,
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE WADSWORTH, IL
Sahat Amund,
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES
CHICAGO, IL
Sanghun An,
COMPUTER SCIENCE SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA
Nicholas Anastas,
COMPUTER SCIENCE QUINCY, IL
Kendra Andel,
BROADCAST JOURNALISM PLAINFIELD, IL

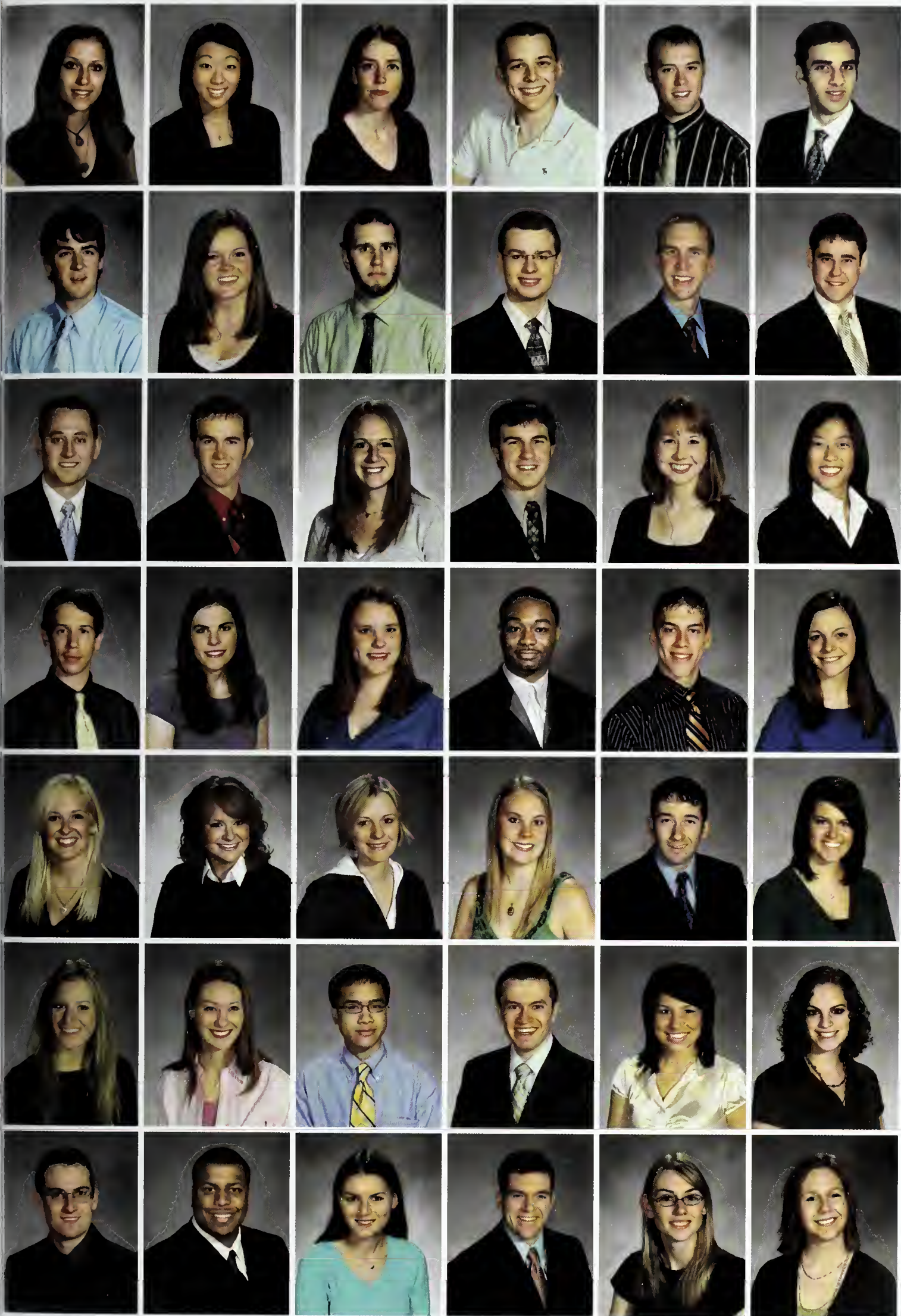
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PSYCHOLOGY BURBANK, IL
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MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
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Di'Ana Anderson,
ADVERTISING LYNWOOD, IL
Jessica Anderson,
AGRIACCOUNTING CHAPIN, IL
Lauren Anderson,
ENGLISH ORLAND PARK, IL
John Andrechak,
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Ryan Andrews,
FINANCE GLEN ELLYN, IL
William Andrews,
AEROSPACE ENGINEERING BOLLINGBROOK, IL
Ashley Aneloski,
ACCOUNTING PERKIN, IL
Fawad Aqueel,
CIVIL ENGINEERING SCHAMBERG, IL
Tiara Armstrong,
COMMUNITY HEALTH DAYTON, OH
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GENERAL ENGINEERING ROSCOE, IL

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Whitney Augustine,
ECONOMICS WINNETKA, IL
Michelle Avi,
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EVANSTON, IL
Laura Babula,
AP AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
EVANSTON, IL
Julien Baburka,
AP AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
EVANSTON, IL
Daniel Bachar,
AP AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
EVANSTON, IL
Kristina Bachrach,
AP AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
EVANSTON, IL
Hanna Badmus,
AP AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY
EVANSTON, IL





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Anna Baik,
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION NORTHBROOK, IL
Sarah Baisley,
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Andrew John Baker Jr.,
ANTHROPOLOGY BOLINGBROOK, IL
Daniel Baker,
KINESIOLOGY VERONA, IL
Reuben Balik,
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Jody Baltz,
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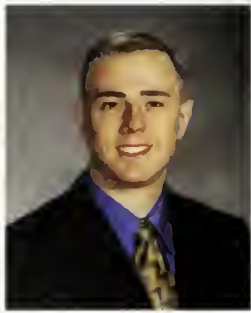
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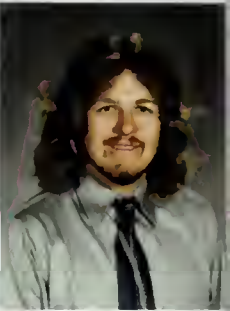
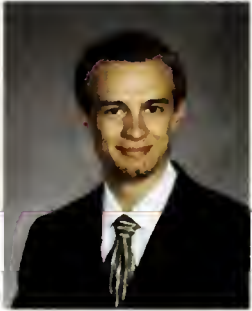
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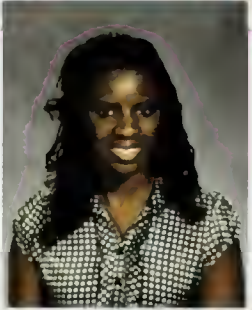
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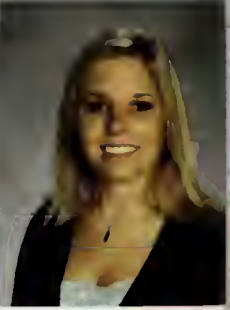
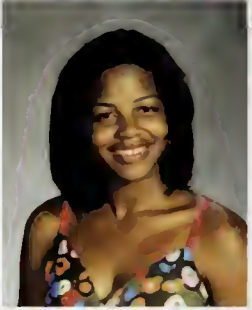
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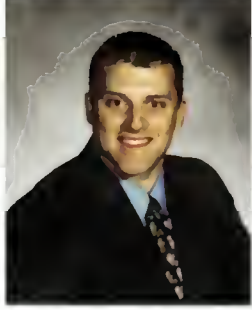
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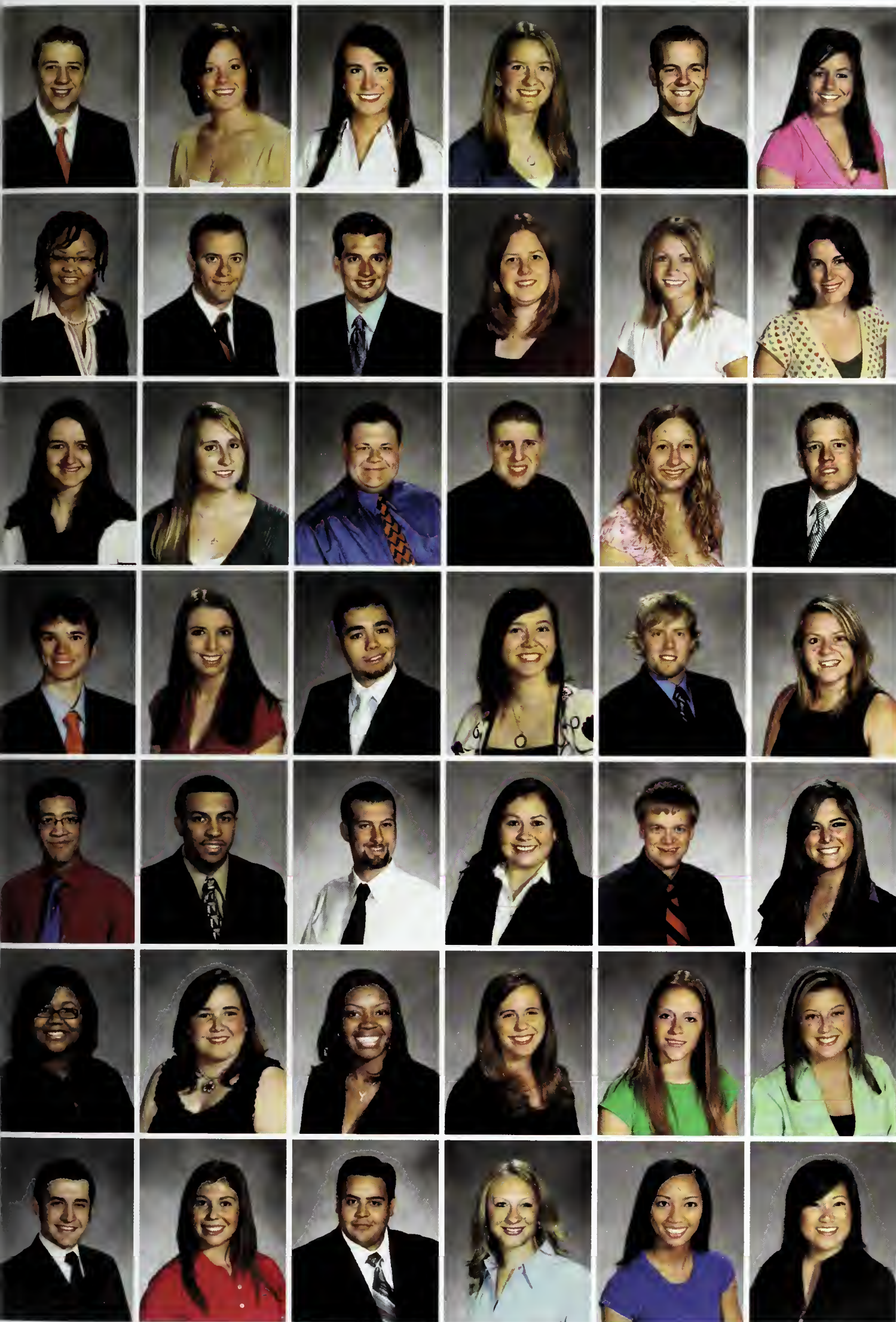


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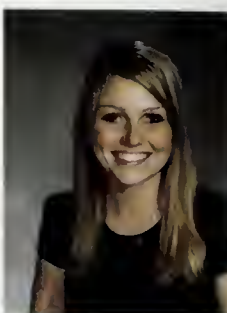
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Nicole Cajinos,
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Rachelle Calacsan,
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Derek Calvert,
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Jenipher Camino,
POLITICAL SCIENCE NAPERVILLE, IL
Kelly Campbell,
SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCE
MOUNT PROSPECT, IL



Julia Campos,
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Matthew Carlson,
POLITICAL SCIENCE DECATUR, IL
Alex Carnahan,
V.L. ENGINEERING SHERRARD, IL
Jeremy Carpenter,
ARCHITECTURE HIGHLAND, IL
Kathleen Carr,
RECREATION SPORTS MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM
DARIEN, IL
Cassandra Carroll,
NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE WOODSTOCK, IL



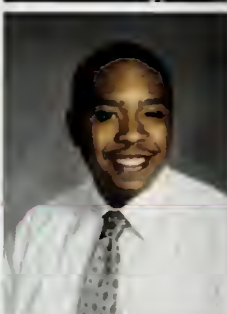
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Sean Carroll,
COMPUTER SCIENCE STATISTICS
WOODSTOCK, IL
Caitlin Carrow,
MARKETING ALTON, IL
Elizabeth Carsley,
HISTORY SPRINGFIELD, IL
Michael Carson,
FOOD INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS CAREY, IL
James Carter,
POLITICAL SCIENCE OAK FOREST, IL



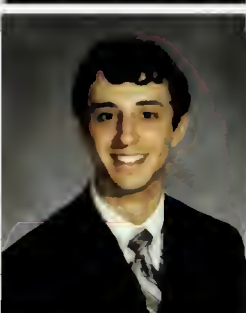
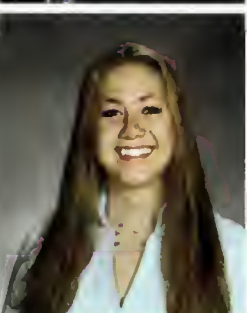
Weston Carter,
BROADCAST JOURNALISM DANVILLE, IL
Alitra Cartman,
DANCE CHICAGO, IL
Maquiya Cartman,
PSYCHOLOGY CHICAGO, IL
Gareth Casady,
MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR BIOLOGY PEORIA, IL
Elizabeth Casey,
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION GRAYSLAKE, IL
Kevin Casey,



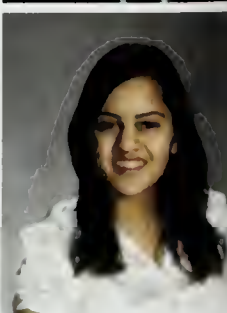
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Cesar Castillo,
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING CALUMET, IL
Kevin Castle,
PSYCHOLOGY MAPLE CITY, MI
Brandon Catt,
MUSIC EDUCATION OBLONG, IL
Jenniter Cavallero,
ENGLISH VERNON HILLS, IL
Brandon Ceaser,
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING
MAYWOOD, IL

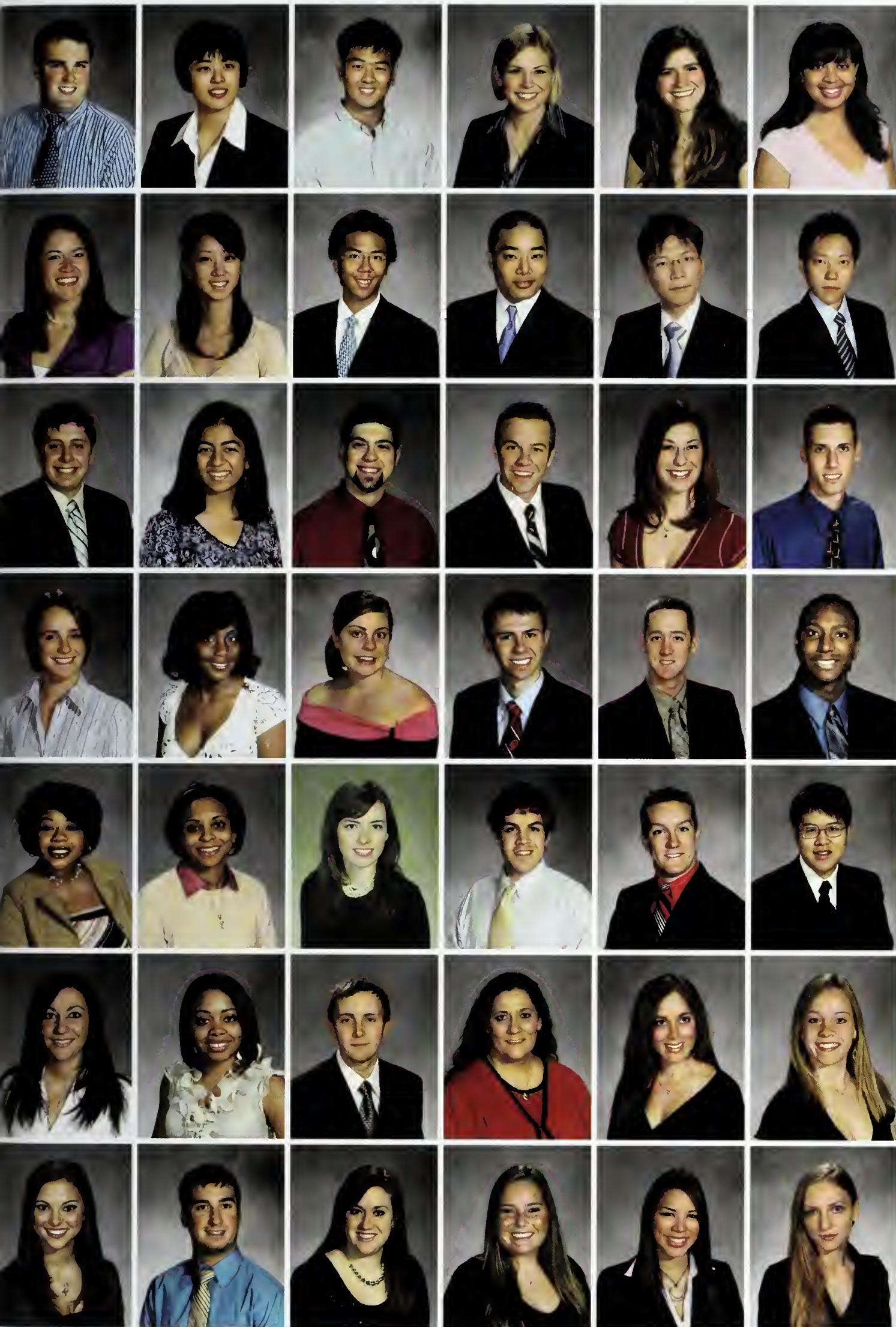


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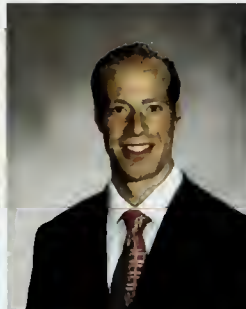
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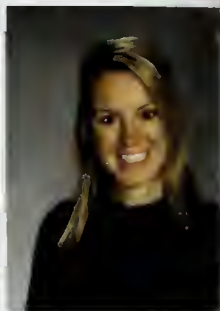
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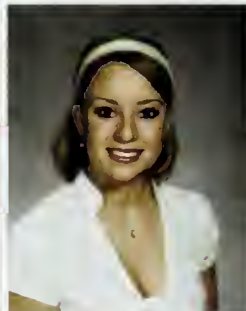
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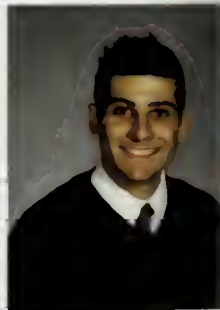
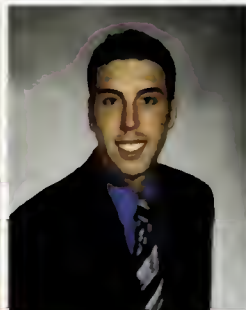
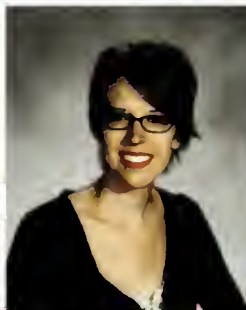
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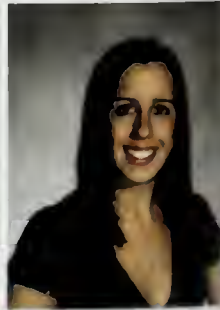
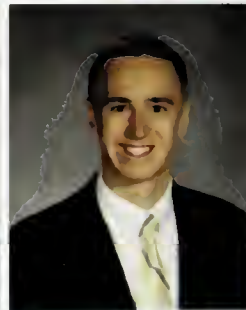
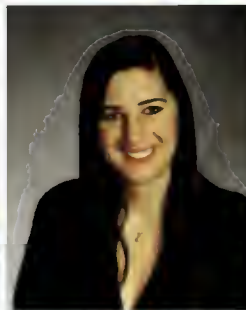
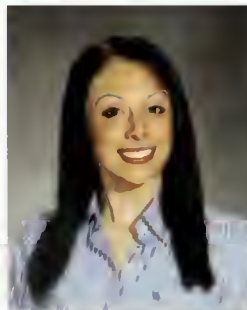
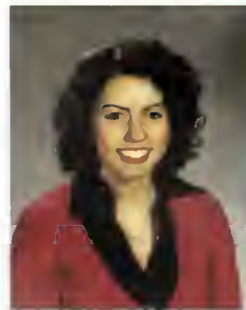
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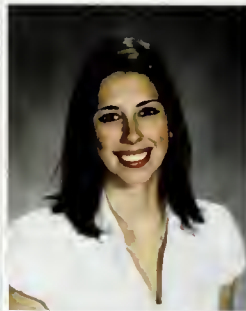
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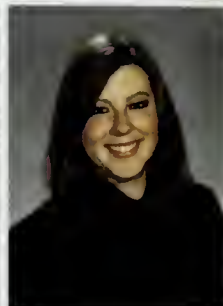
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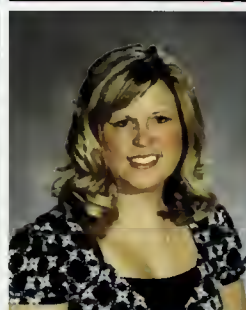
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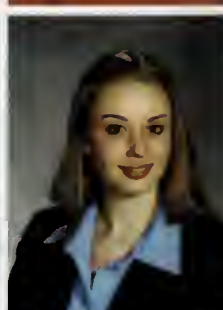
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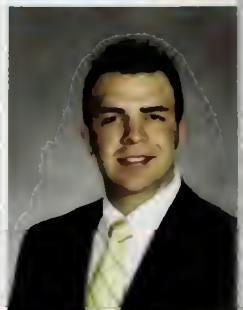
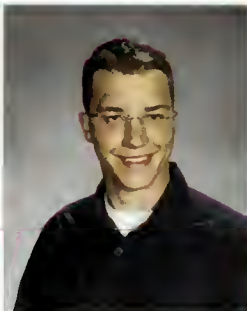
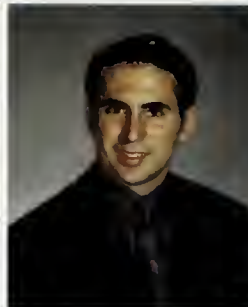
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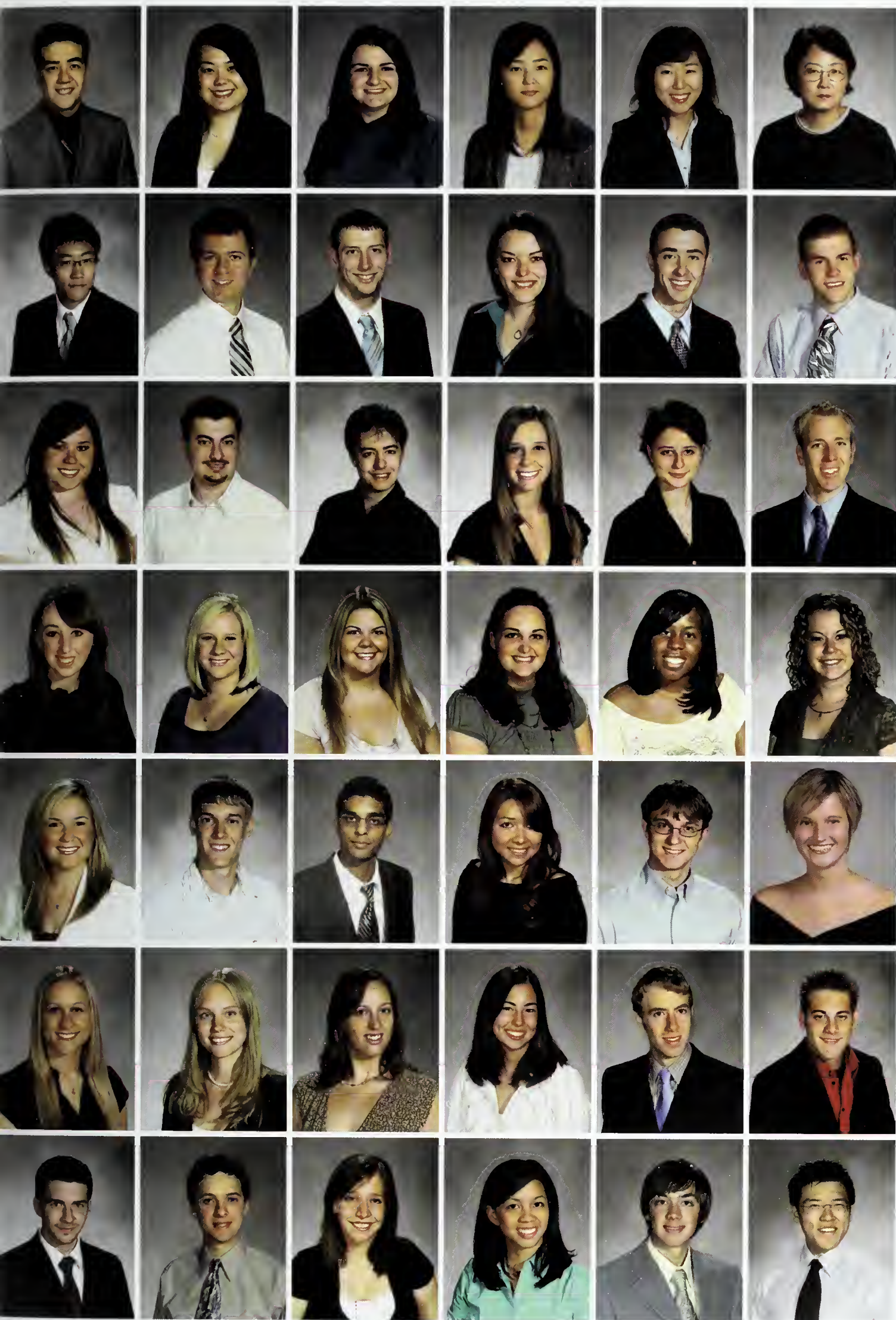
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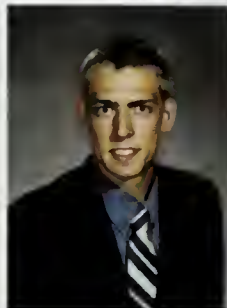
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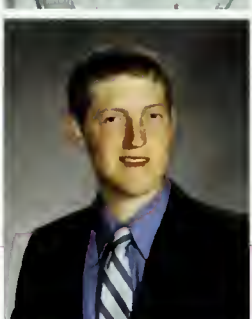
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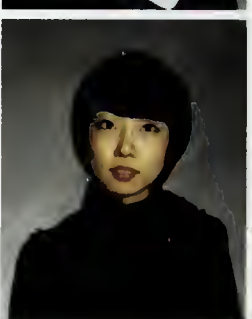
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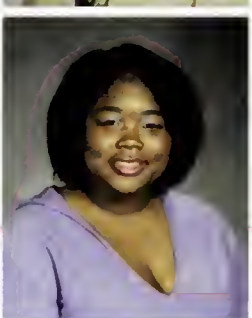
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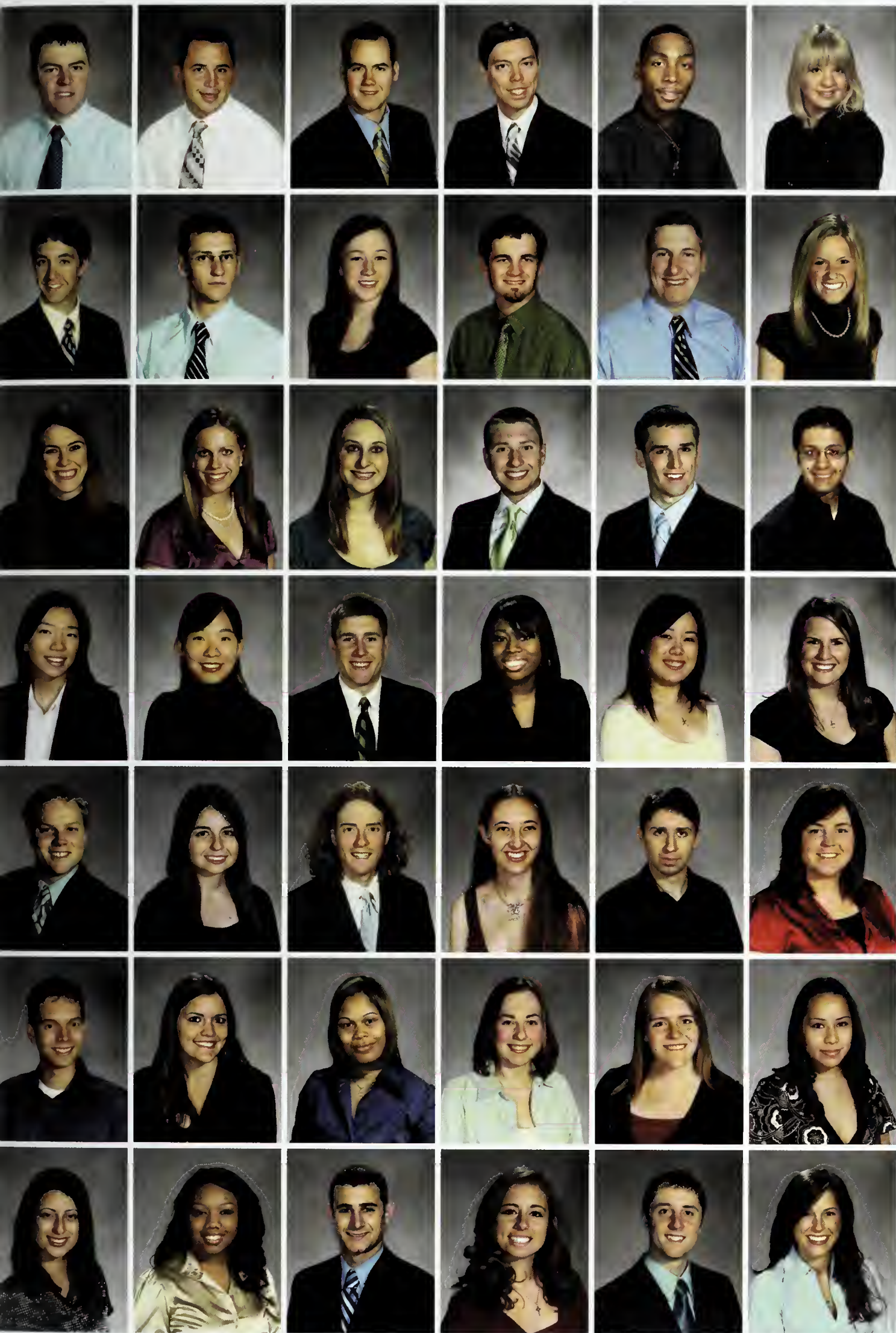


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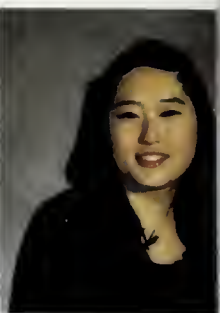
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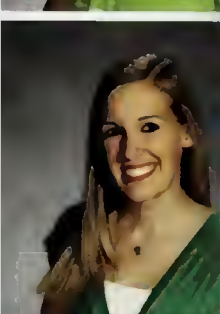
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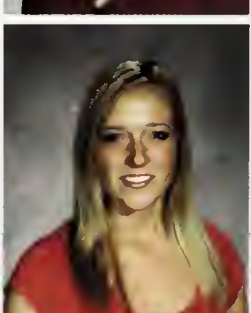
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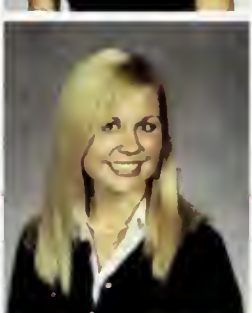
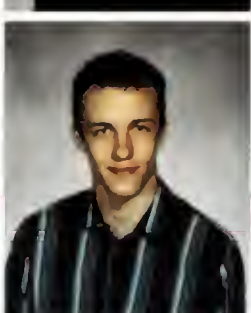
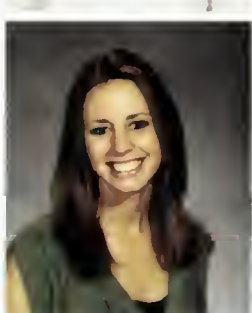
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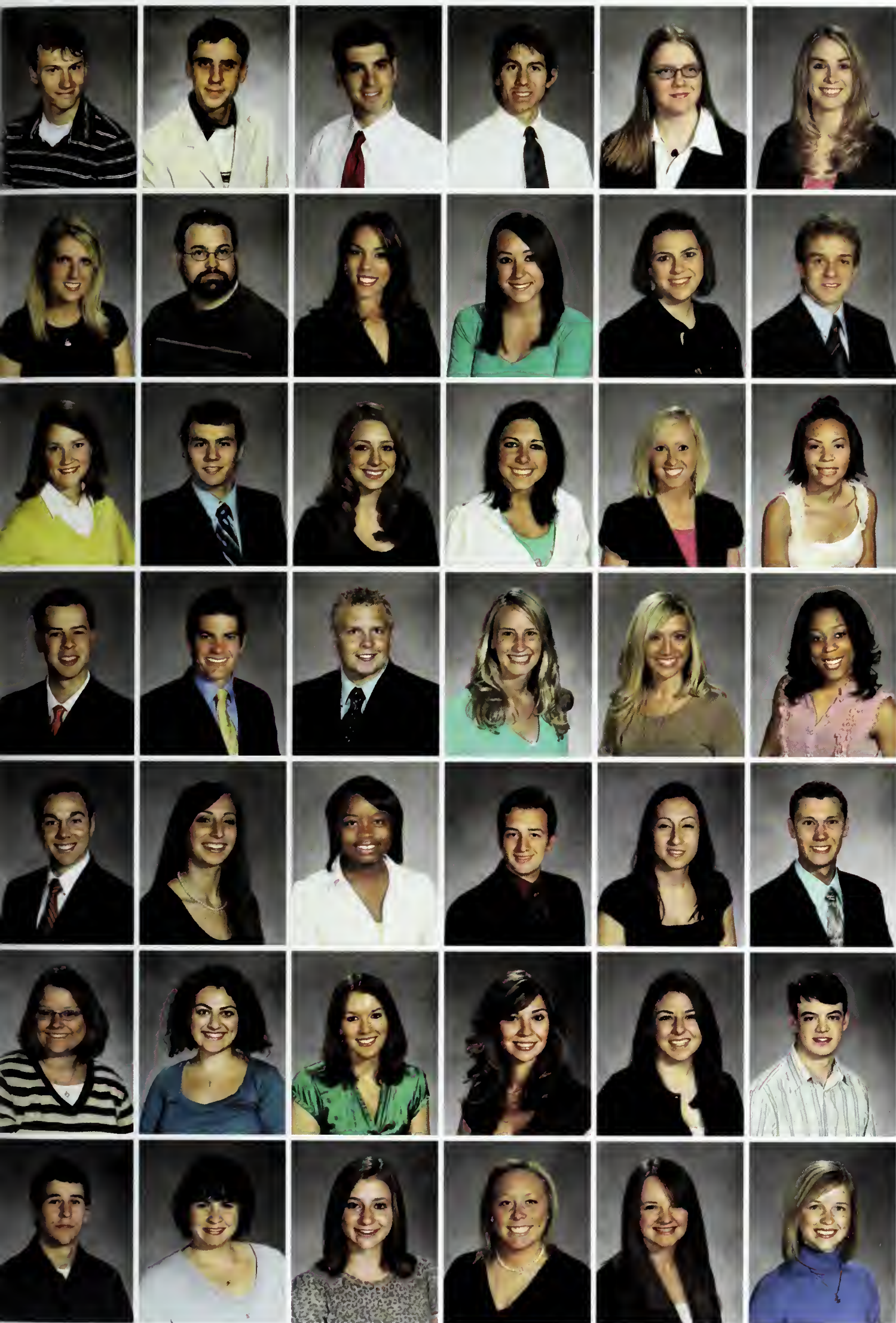


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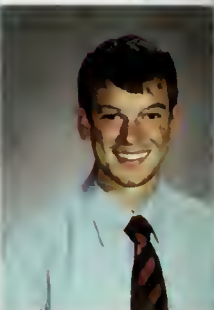
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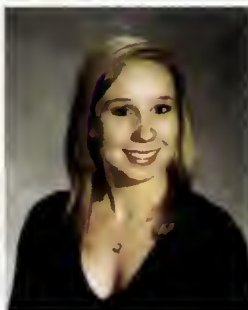
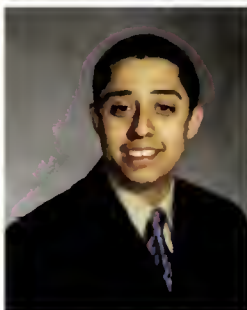
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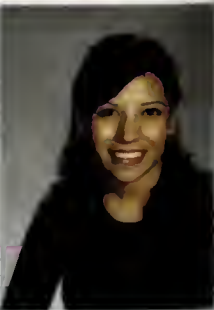
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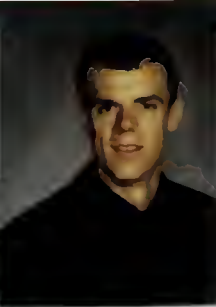
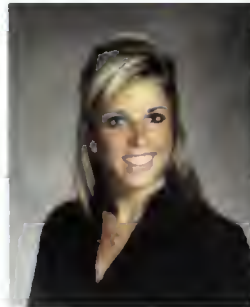
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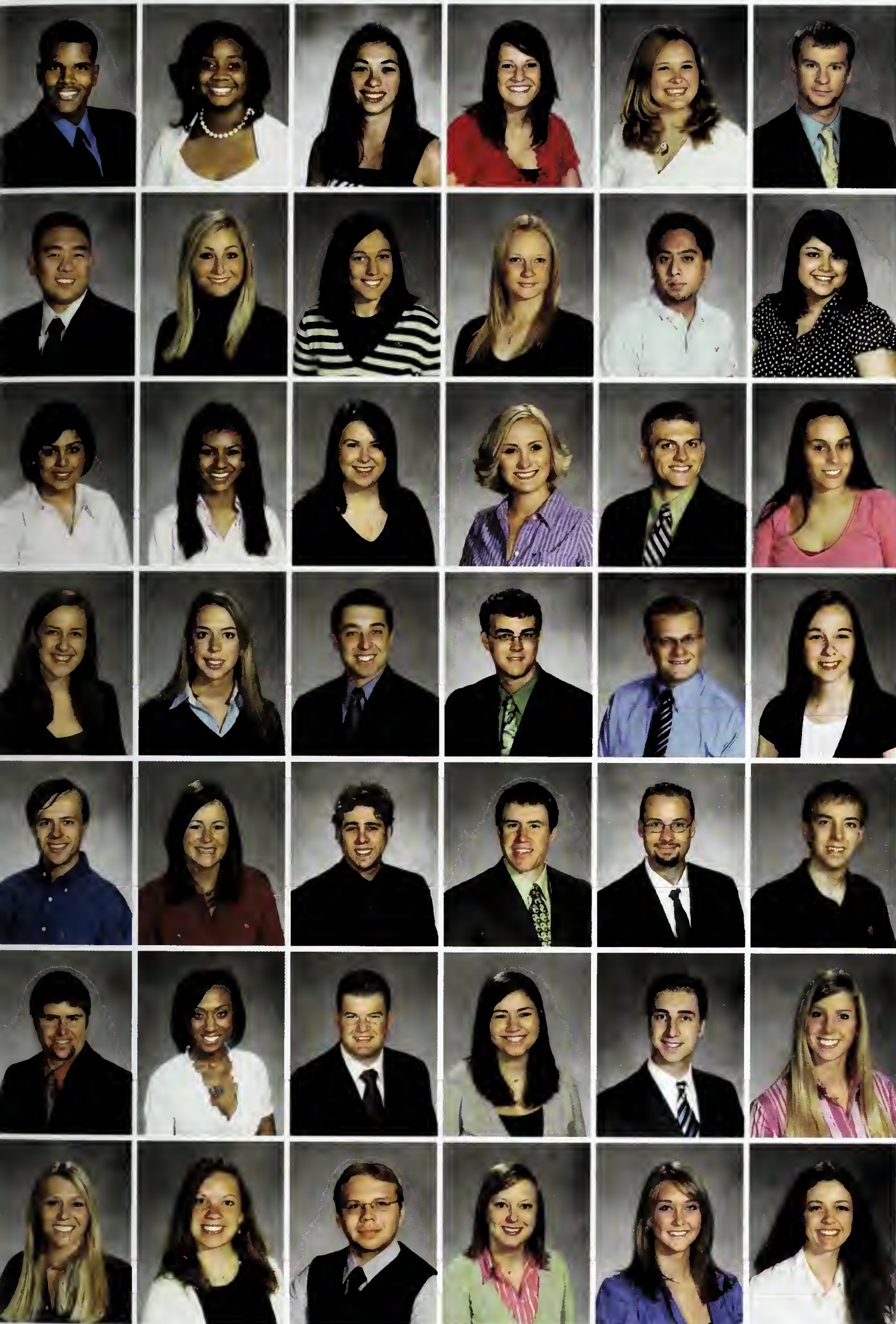
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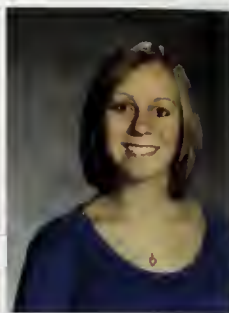
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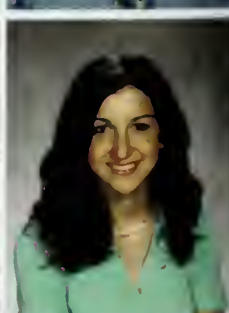
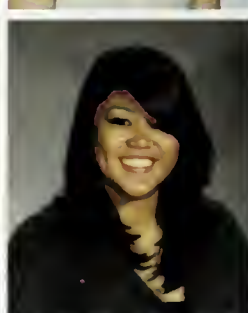
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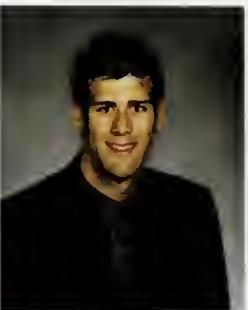
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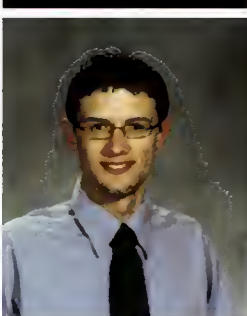
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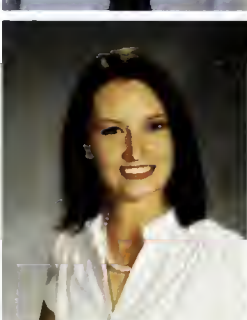
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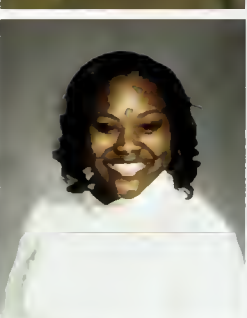
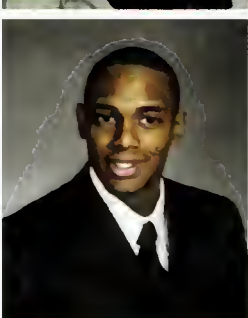
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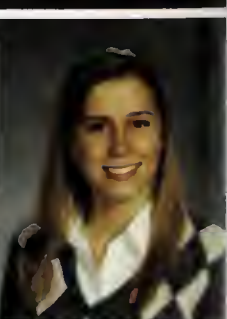
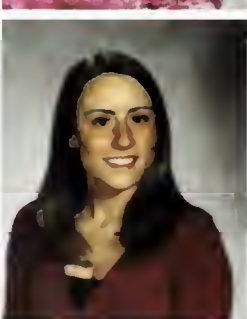
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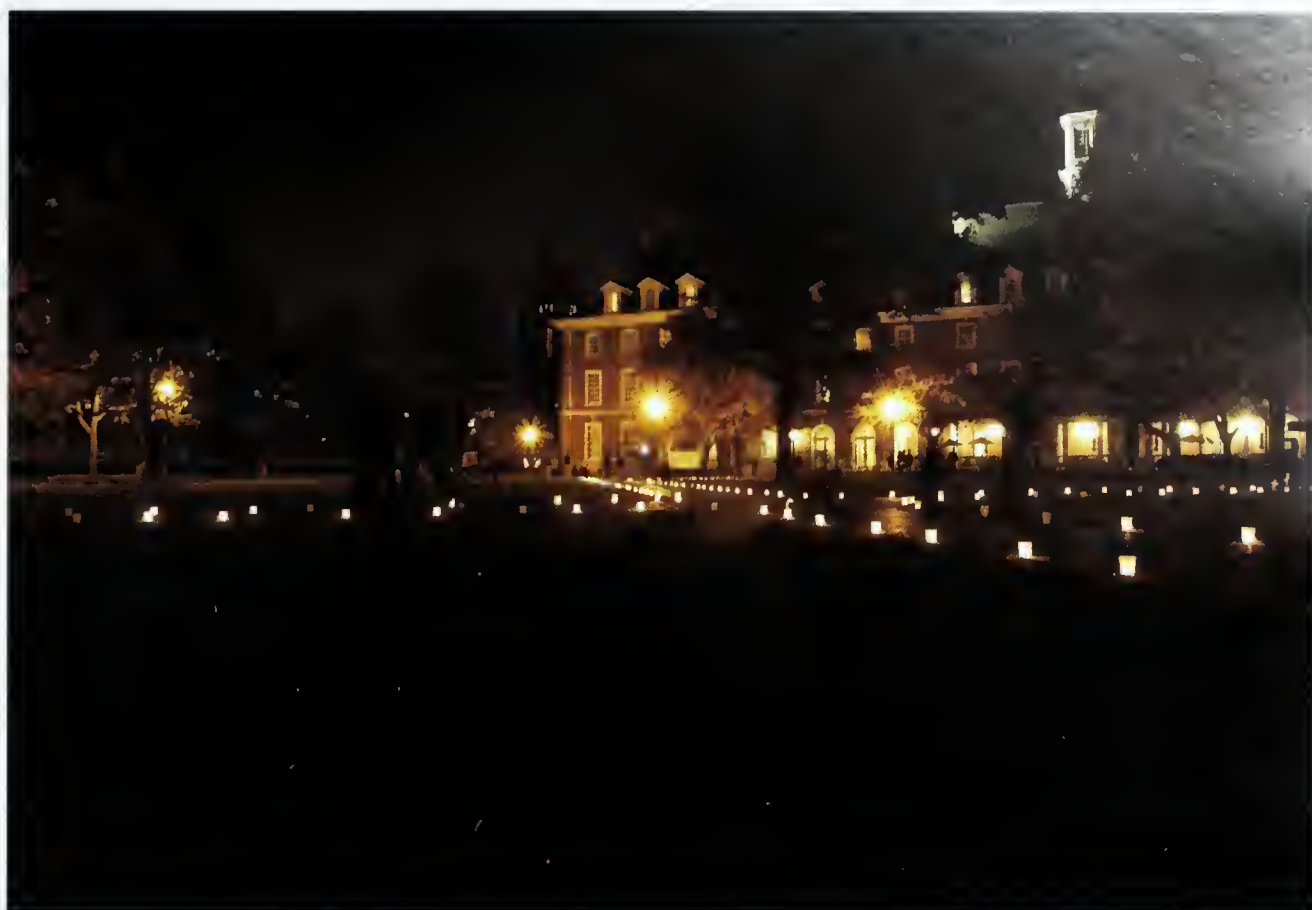
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i m a g e

it's something you *see*
in someone else. it is
something you *create* in
yourself. you can *change*
it. you can *choose* it.

the image of the end



Sixteen plus years of education has left most of us a great deal smarter. We have learned a little bit about the basics of life and a lot about our chosen field. We have made and lost dear friends as we learn to live life apart from our parents and childhood friends.

And yet, with all this excess knowledge, these life lessons and memories made, we still struggle with the answer to the question, "Who are you?"

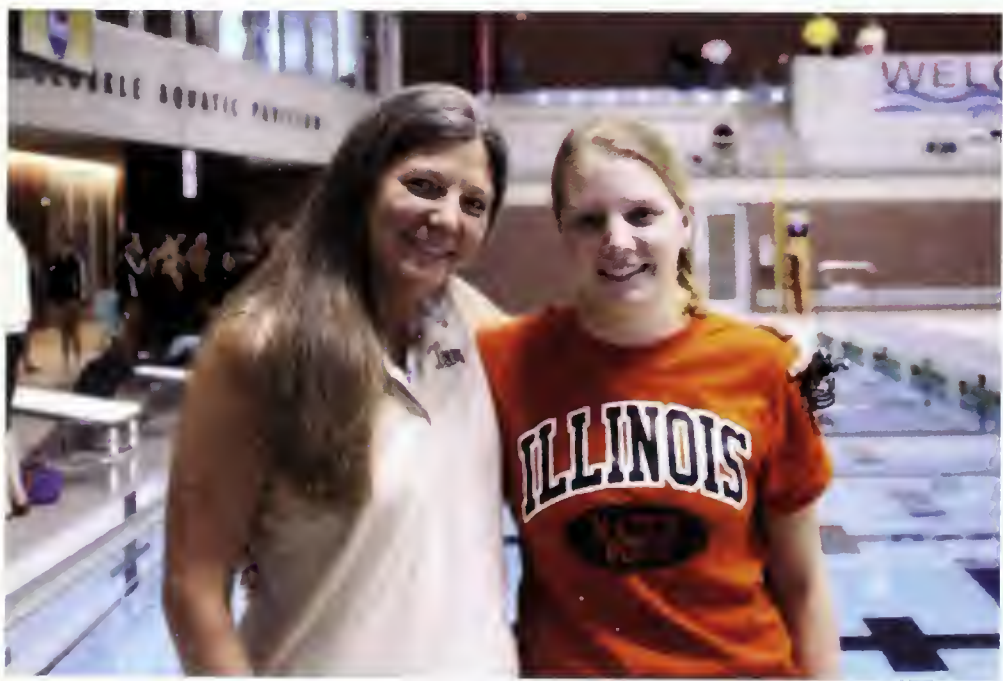
I am a news-editorial journalism major. I am attending law school in the fall of 2008. I am a water polo player. I am the editor-in-chief for a hard-working, dedicated, and talented 2008 Illio yearbook staff. I'm excited.

And I have spent, at the least, the last four years of college trying to put all those things together, to form the 'image' of myself I would desire the world to see. Yet, I am still unfinished.

Perhaps this is how it is supposed to be. For if we are ever able to set in stone who we are, what will we become? If we remain stagnate, we have no chance at change. Fortunately, we have the ability to mold, form, erase, and remold the image we choose for ourselves.

While working on this book throughout my senior year, I have come to realize that I have yet to finish this discovery of myself. I may not finish this journey for awhile. But the University of Illinois has helped me along my way. My experience here has helped me understand that I won't understand. My image is not yet complete. It is still up to me.

Who has the University of Illinois helped you be?





No editor could create this book alone. I'd like to thank: **Sarah Kowalis**, for your talent, vision, and verbal backboard, **Alex Robb**, for your dedication and unwavering sense of humor, **Jane Cluver** for your support, **Mary Cory** and the Illini Media Board for the change to be a part of this creation, the **section editors** who worked hard to create a unique book, the **writers, photographers, and designers** without which we would still be staring at a few blank pages, **Bree Longfield** and **Amy Schumacher** for listening, **Megan O'Connell, Erin Fox,** and **Andrew Schneider** for getting their pictures taken, **Jane Austen** for her inspiration, **Barbara Christ** for her encouragement, **Mr. Bill Bowman** for pagan rituals, the 'misspellings wall', and his constant faith in my success, and my **mom** - for everything.

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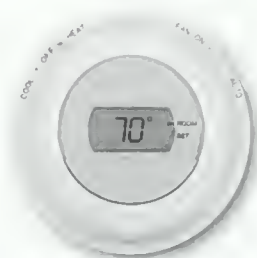
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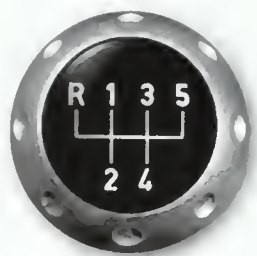
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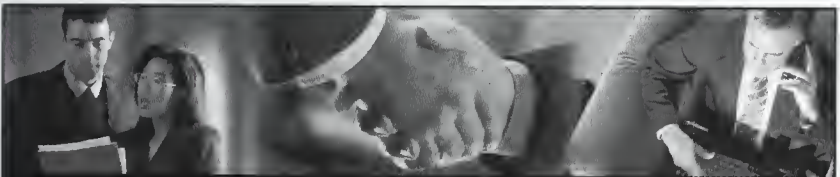


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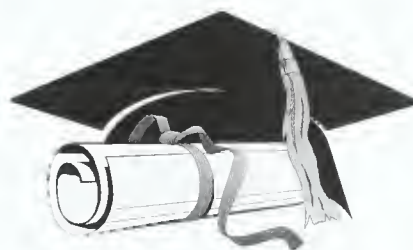
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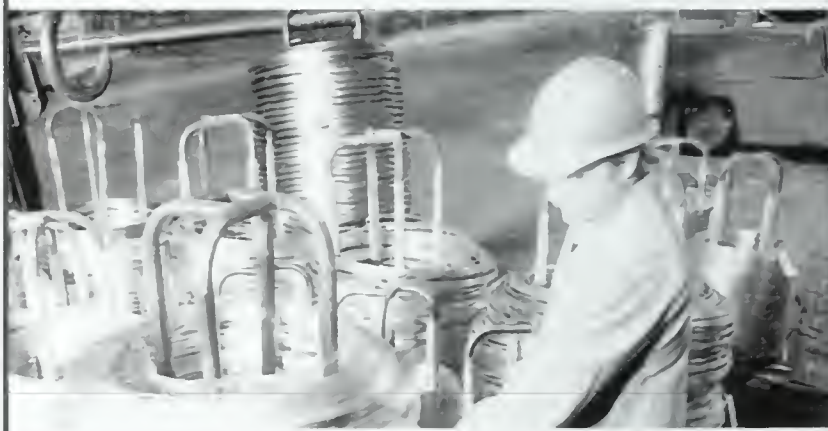


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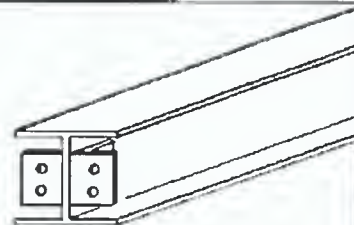
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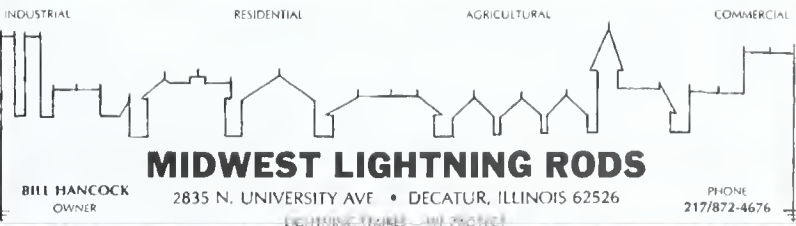
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The 2008 Illio Yearbook at the University of Illinois, vol. 115, was printed by Taylor Publishing Company in Dallas Texas and produced with Adobe InDesign and Photoshop. Jane Cluver was the Taylor Representative for the Illio and Pam Ringold was the Advisor. The cover was designed by the art director and editor-in-chief. The material is black matte 124 with varnish.

typeface

The endsheet material is 80 pound coated one side stock. All 336 pages are printed 100 pound dull enamel. Body copy for the book is 8 point optima lt std with 14 point leading. Captions for the book are in 6 point optima lt std. Headline and subhead are trade gothic type in various sizes.

designers

Each designer designed their pages under the supervision of the editor-in-chief. The opening, division, closing, and groups and Greeks pages were designed jointly by the art director and the editor-in-chief.

photographers

Photographers from both the Illio and the Daily Illini staffs took the majority of the photos for the book. Some photos were courtesy of the University of Illinois Sports Information, the Associated Press, and others, as noted respective spreads. The senior portraits were taken by Thornton Studios, New York, New York, and were submitted digitally.

writers

All copy in the book was written by Illio staff writers. Editing was done by Illini Media, Illio Yearbook editorial staff members. The editor-in-chief wrote the opening, closing, and division page body copy.

The Illio is the independent yearbook at the University of Illinois and is a division of Illini Media. Mary Cory is the publisher and general manager. All editorial and marketing staff members were students of the University of Illinois. Advertisements were provided by Educational Services, Inc. No University of Illinois funds were used to produce this book. No part of this book may be reproduced without prior consent from Illini Media.



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